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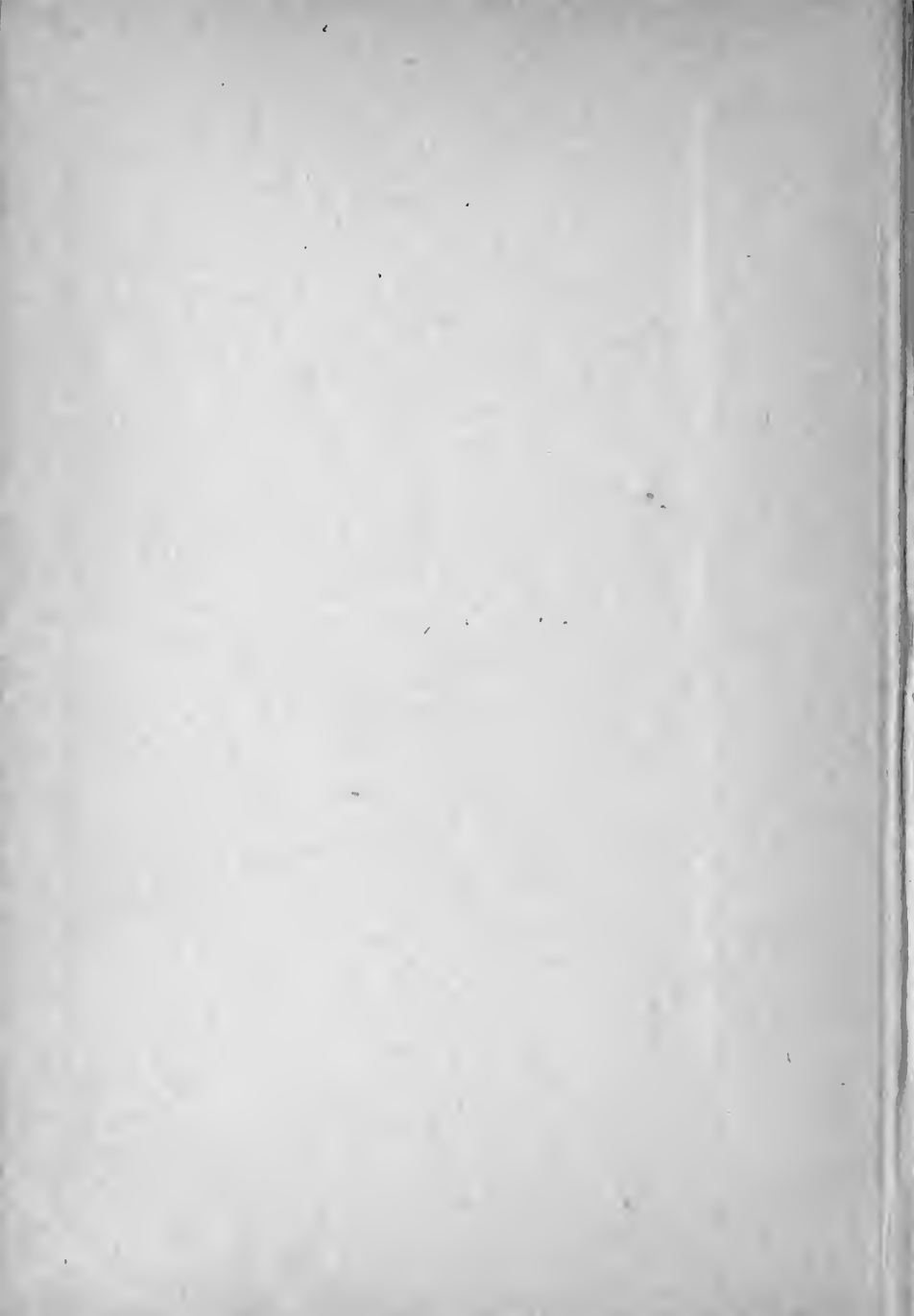


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THE AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS



Its Origin, Purposes and Service



Patricia A. Parker. Dec. 1 - 1924

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**THE AMERICAN
NATIONAL RED CROSS**



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CALVIN COOLIDGE

President, American National Red Cross



JUDGE JOHN BARTON PAYNE

Chairman, Central Committee
American National Red Cross



MISS MABEL T. BOARDMAN

Secretary, American National Red
Cross

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS

ITS ORIGIN, PURPOSES, AND SERVICE

BY

SARAH ELIZABETH PICKETT

CO-AUTHOR OF "HISTORY OF AMERICAN
RED CROSS NURSING"

ILLUSTRATED



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TO
ALL WHO LOVE AND SERVE
THE RED CROSS AND HUMANITY



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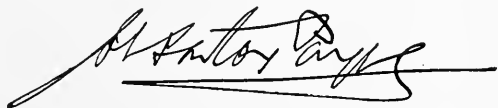
A FOREWORD

To all Americans the American Red Cross offers its fellowship. It raises no barriers of wealth, education, occupation, or race. It hears no political beliefs. It recognizes no creed save that of Service.

Out of the misery of the neglected wounded in war over sixty years ago was struck the Red Cross ideal. From a feeble spark this ideal has since grown into a clear and living flame, now upheld by millions of hands in many nations, so that its beneficent rays may fall on the steep slopes up which the human race is toiling toward a broader humanitarianism.

In the United States this light will continue to shine as long as the American people continue to make the principles and activities of the American Red Cross a reflection of their own love for their fellows.

That Americans may know of the birth of their society, that they may understand the law of Congress under which it operates, that they may appreciate the need for its service in time of war and peace, this primer of the American Red Cross has been prepared.



Chairman, Central Committee.

The American National Red Cross.

National Headquarters,
September 24, 1923



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**THE AMERICAN
NATIONAL RED CROSS**



THE AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS

ITS ORIGIN, PURPOSES, AND SERVICE

CHAPTER I

THE ORIGIN OF THE RED CROSS

“LET us go forth and dress the wounds of the warriors, be they friend or foe.”

So spoke Haldora the Dane to the women of her household whom she assembled on the eve of a battle in the year 1000 A.D. She and her attendants then girdled high their blue mantles and sallied forth. Of Haldora herself it is written that she found the enemy chieftain desperately wounded and nursed him back to health.

This incident of the Nordic chieftainess is the first recorded manifestation of the impersonal instinct of compassion and mercy in war. This instinct, which looks beyond race, creed, and cause, and sees in a wounded soldier only a sufferer to be made less

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miserable, next found expression in the Knights Hospitalers of the medieval orders and later in the Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul, who went in 1654 and 1655 to the battle-fields of Sedan and Arras. German women also felt the influence of the Knights Hospitalers and in the War of Freedom in 1813 formed women's volunteer war relief societies.

In Florence Nightingale, the nineteenth century brought forward nigh well a perfect blossom of this altruistic ideal. During the Crimean War she went to the British Army hospital at Scutari and there revolutionized the care of the wounded. Not in the actual saving of life, however, nor in the lasting reforms in British Army sanitary service which she inaugurated did she render her enduring service. Her two epoch-making contributions lay, first, in the establishment of the modern profession of nursing, and, second, in the value of her example in altruistic service to the wounded and sick in war.

HENRI DUNANT AND THE "SOUVENIR OF SOLFERINO"

One who followed the light of Miss Nightingale's example was a young Franco-Swiss, Henri Dunant. He was born in 1828 in Geneva, Switzerland. When he was thirty-one years of age, he went to Lombardy, Italy, and in the guise of a tourist witnessed there in June 24, 1859, the battle of Solferino. Forty thousand men were killed or wounded on that field. In a compassionate desire to aid them, Monsieur



FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

The American National Red Cross

Dunant gathered together a group of kind-hearted women from the neighboring towns, and this small band did what they could to lessen the misery of the wounded. They made no distinction in friend or foe.

The sight of these dead and dying had, however, unforgettably stamped into Monsieur Dunant's consciousness a realization of the utter inadequacy of the military medical service then in existence and of the needless and cruel waste of human life which it caused. In 1862 he returned to Geneva and wrote and published a pamphlet, "A Souvenir of Solferino." Few writers in history have raised a more eloquent voice against war and its horrible realities than did Monsieur Dunant in the "Souvenir." In conclusion he asked, "Would it not be possible to found and organize in all civilized countries permanent societies of volunteers which in time of war would render succor to the wounded without distinction of nationality?"

This question may be called the root of the modern Red Cross system. The "Souvenir of Solferino" was read throughout the civilized world and aroused a strong international feeling against the semibarbaric negligence which had hitherto prevailed in the care of the wounded. Among the groups which gave the "Souvenir", constructive thought was Gustav Moynier, president of a philanthropic organization, the Society of Public Utility, in Geneva, Switzerland. Monsieur Moynier was so struck by the possibilities



HENRI DUNANT

The American National Red Cross

in Monsieur Dunant's question that he appointed from the Society of Public Utility a commission to study it. This commission was known as the Committee of Five and included as its members General Dufour, president; Henri Dunant, secretary; Dr. Theodore Maunoir, Dr. Louis Appia, and Monsieur Moynier. The Committee of Five later extended a general invitation to various European countries to send representatives to a conference at which they would discuss ways and means of carrying Monsieur Dunant's ideas into operation. The conference met in Geneva on October 26, 1863, and was attended by delegates from fourteen European governments and seven philanthropic societies. These delegates drew up and passed resolutions which recommended the development of the system of volunteer relief in war now known as the Red Cross. The choice of this insignia was in deference to the Republic of Switzerland, for the Red Cross flag is the Swiss flag with the colors reversed.

THE TREATY OF GENEVA

The next step was to secure official international agreement by treaty to the plans contained in the resolutions. The Swiss Federal Council, supported by Napoleon III, addressed an invitation to twenty-five sovereign states asking them to send official representatives to a diplomatic convention to be held in August, 1864, at Geneva. This convention was held

The Origin of the Red Cross

on August 8-22 and was attended by delegates from thirteen European nations and the United States. These delegates drew up the famous Articles of Convention now known as the First Treaty of Geneva or the International Red Cross Treaty and signed them in the name of their respective governments, with the exception of Great Britain, Saxony, Sweden, and the United States. The governments of these four nations had not chosen to empower their delegates with authority to act.

One reason why the United States did not take a more active official part in the Diplomatic Convention of 1864 was that the Civil War was occupying all its attention. For three years previous to the Geneva Convention the young republic had been endeavoring to carry into practice self-evolved theories of war relief and through the efforts of the Sanitary Commission was meeting with considerable success. The Sanitary Commission, of which Dr. Henry W. Bellows was chairman, had grown out of a mass meeting held on April 26, 1861, at the Cooper Union, New York City, and its organization marked the first step taken by the United States toward unification of civilian war relief under a single society. This, however, was only a step, for during the Civil War spontaneous individual effort also prevailed in almost every phase of relief.

When the Diplomatic Convention was called in Geneva in August, 1864, the United States was repre-



Original in Red Cross Museum

THE DIPLOMATIC CONVENTION OF GENEVA, 1864, BY CHARLES EDOUARD ARMAND-DUMARESQUE
(Mr. Bowles is shown presenting to General Dufour, president of the convention, a report of the
U. S. Sanitary Commission)

The Origin of the Red Cross

sented by two "unofficial" delegates, George C. Fogg, then American Minister to Switzerland, and Charles S. P. Bowles, European agent of the Sanitary Commission. Mr. Bowles's presence at the convention was particularly fortunate. He had brought with him valuable reports and photographs of the work of the Sanitary Commission and was able to prove that this organization had long since met with and overcome difficulties which then daunted some of the delegates.

When the convention adjourned Mr. Bowles submitted a report embodying the aims and text of the Treaty of Geneva to Secretary of State Seward, but no action was taken on it. The Government seemed to regard the treaty as an entangling foreign alliance, and the American people were weary of war and all that pertained thereto.

Not so, however, were the leaders of the Sanitary Commission. They had seen the inadequacy of the army medical service and the imperfections of their own organization. Dr. Bellows and other prominent men devoted their considerable powers to influence the American Government to accede to the Treaty of Geneva and were the leading spirits in the organization on July 20, 1866, of a society, The American Association for the Relief of Misery on the Battle-fields, to further this end. Its insignia was the Red Cross on a white field. It even raised and sent generous contributions in 1870 to the bel-

The American National Red Cross

ligerents of the Franco-Prussian War. Its official existence and development was, however, doomed in a country where the Government was not signatory to the treaty under which it must necessarily function in war, and so in 1871 it was disbanded.

THE BIRTH OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

In 1869 Clara Barton went abroad for travel. Though not associated with the Sanitary Commission, Miss Barton had carried on individual relief work during the Civil War, so that in 1870 during the Franco-Prussian conflict she was much interested when she saw the Red Cross system in effective operation. While in Switzerland she became acquainted with the leaders of the Red Cross movement, and Monsieur Moynier requested her to try to secure on her return to America the accession of the United States to the Treaty of Geneva. In 1881 she interested President Garfield and James G. Blaine, then Secretary of State. In July of that year The American National Association of the Red Cross, with Miss Barton as president, was incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia. During the same summer steps for ratification of the treaty were initiated. Before it was signed, however, President Garfield was assassinated, but its advocates were able to win over the support of the new Administration. On March 1, 1882, President Arthur signed the Treaty of Geneva, the Senate some days later con-



CLARA BARTON

The American National Red Cross

firmed it without a dissenting voice, and the United States at last took its place among the thirty-one nations then signatory.

During its eighteen years of life, the American National Association of the Red Cross was a small and informal national committee. It had no official connection with the United States Government. All powers of administration were vested in the president, Miss Barton, and in an Executive Board of eleven members. Its first work was in the field of disaster relief. In the United States the Association rendered aid to victims of the Michigan forest fires in 1881, of the Mississippi and Ohio River floods during subsequent years, of the Galveston storm and tidal wave in 1900, and in a few other instances. As to its work overseas, the farmers of the Middle West in 1892 sent under the Red Cross flag a ship-load of corn to Russian famine sufferers, and in 1896 aid was given to victims of Armenian massacres in Turkey and Asia Minor.

The first opportunity "to furnish volunteer aid to the sick and wounded of armies in time of war" came to the Red Cross in 1898. The Spanish authorities in Cuba, to quell civil uprisings, adopted drastic methods against the civilian population, and imprisoned men, women, and children near seaport towns without adequate shelter and food. Word of their condition reached the United States, and the Red Cross Association among others offered its serv-

The Origin of the Red Cross

ices to President McKinley for relief work. A committee of Americans, the Central Cuban Relief Committee, was formed in New York at the Government's instigation to collect funds to relieve the suffering of the *reconcentrados*, as the imprisoned Cubans were called. Officers of the Red Cross Association sat on this committee. The committee raised funds, chartered a ship, the *State of Texas*, loaded it with supplies, and sent it under the Red Cross flag to Cuba. Miss Barton boarded it at Key West and proceeded with it to Cuba, where the supplies were distributed among the *reconcentrados* and American soldiers.

In the meantime, a strong group of Red Cross workers had sprung into independent action in New York City. This group took the name of The American Red Cross Relief Committee. Bishop Potter was chairman. The committee immediately appointed a Women's Committee on Auxiliaries, charged with the duty of organizing similar committees throughout the country. Almost a hundred such committees were formed, and each one assumed responsibility for one special phase of war relief work. An active auxiliary of the New York group recruited over five hundred well trained nurses, assigned them to U. S. Army camps, furnished them with necessities and luxuries for the soldiers, and paid the majority of the nurses' salaries and maintenance. This work was the most extensive and valuable rendered in the name of the Red Cross during the War with Spain. Taken by

The American National Red Cross

and large, however, the volunteer relief work during the War with Spain was done mainly through independent units and lacked national direction. Many enthusiastic potential supporters of the Red Cross felt that a rare opportunity for service had been lost through lack of adequate and efficient Red Cross national organization.

REORGANIZATION

In June, 1900, the Red Cross Association was re-incorporated by Act of Congress. The new charter stipulated that an annual financial report should be made to Congress but provided for no official audit of the society's accounts. The results of the new charter proved unsatisfactory, and so, after an investigation by a committee of which Senator Proctor was chairman, a reorganization of the society was effected. During the autumn of 1904, the old Association of the Red Cross was dissolved, and a new corporation was created by Act of Congress and was approved on January 5, 1905, by President Roosevelt. The new charter required that a yearly audit of Red Cross accounts be made by the War Department and provided for Federal supervision of the society through official representation on the Red Cross governing body, supervision of a type intended to check over-development and extravagant policy yet not so direct as to limit the society's flexibility and speed in operation.

The Origin of the Red Cross

A last important step in Federal recognition of the American Red Cross was taken by President Taft on August 22, 1911, when he proclaimed

. . . That the American Red Cross is the only volunteer society authorized by this Government to render aid to its land and naval forces in time of war.

That any other society desiring to render similar assistance can do so only through the American National Red Cross.

Thus from the date of the new charter and of this proclamation the American Red Cross became truly national in its organization, scope, and standing.

CHAPTER II

PURPOSES AND ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

THE Charter (1905) of the American Red Cross is the Act of Congress under which the society functions. This act of law was drafted by Miss Mabel T. Boardman and the Hon. John W. Foster, one-time Secretary of State, and it consists of a preamble of six clauses, a body of seven sections, and four amendments. The preamble describes the origin of the society; the body enumerates the powers, purposes, and details of organization and administration; and the amendments relate to further administrative details. As the origin has already been given, the powers, purposes, and details of organization will next be briefly stated.

PURPOSES

The powers of the American Red Cross as enumerated by the Charter are those of a body corporate and politic in the District of Columbia for the purposes thereafter stated. These purposes, as defined by the Charter, are:

Purposes and Organization

First: To furnish volunteer aid to the sick and wounded of armies in time of war, in accordance with the spirit and conditions of the conference of Geneva of October, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and also of the treaty of the Red Cross, or the treaty of Geneva of August twenty-second, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, to which the United States of America gave its adhesion on March first, eighteen hundred and eighty-two.

Second: And for said purposes to perform all the duties devolved upon a national society by each nation which has acceded to said treaty.

Third: To succeed to all the rights and property which have been hitherto held and to all the duties which have heretofore been performed by the American National Red Cross as a corporation duly incorporated by Act of Congress June sixth, nineteen hundred, which Act is hereby repealed and the organization created thereby is hereby dissolved.

Fourth: To act in matters of voluntary relief and in accord with the military and naval authorities as a medium of communication between the people of the United States of America and their Army and Navy, and to act in such matters between similar national societies of other governments through the "Comité International de Secours" and the Government and the people and the Army and Navy of the United States of America.

Fifth: And to continue and carry on a system of national and international relief in time of peace and to apply the same in mitigating the sufferings caused by pestilence, famine, fire, floods and other great national calamities and to devise and carry on measures for preventing the same.

ORGANIZATION

In its organization the American Red Cross consists of a General Board; of a Board of Incorporators; of a Central Committee; of a National Headquarters and Division administrative staff; and of local Chapters.

The General Board consists of the members of the Central Committee; of members of the Board of



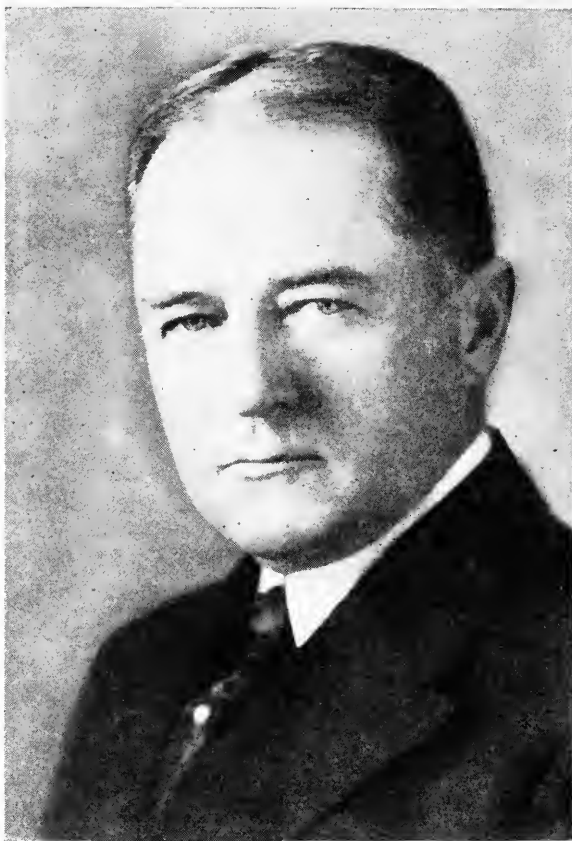
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

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Incorporators, a self-perpetuating body of sixty-five persons; of members of certain national committees; and of delegates from Chapters to Red Cross annual meetings. The General Board meets annually in Washington, D. C., on the Wednesday preceding the second Thursday in December; elects certain officers of the society, who are two vice-presidents, a counselor, a treasurer, and a secretary; hears and accepts the annual report of the society; and discusses matters of interest pertaining to its work. The annual report is then submitted to the Secretary of War for an audit of receipts and expenditures and is transmitted by him to Congress and published.

The Central Committee is the governing body of the Red Cross and consists of eighteen members, six of whom are elected by the Board of Incorporators and six by the representatives of Chapters. The other six are appointed by the President of the United States and include the chairman of the Central Committee and a representative each from the Departments of State, War, Navy, Justice, and the Treasury. The by-laws of the society provide that the President of the United States is president of the American Red Cross.

The Central Committee meets at the call of its chairman. Its vote of approval is necessary for the initiation and conduct of all American Red Cross activities and the expenditure of all American Red Cross funds. To transact the detail of this business,



Photo, Harris & Ewing

HENRY P. DAVISON

Purposes and Organization

the Central Committee appoints from its membership an Executive Committee of nine members which, in the words of the Charter, "shall have and exercise all the powers of the Central Committee." The chairman of the Central Committee is the chairman, also, of the Executive Committee and the official representative and executive officer of the society. The different chairmen of the Central Committee have been Admiral William K. Van Reypen, General Robert M. O'Reilly, General George W. Davis, the Hon. William Howard Taft, Dr. Livingston Farrand, and Judge John Barton Payne, the present incumbent of the office. During the participation of the United States in the European War, President Wilson appointed a War Council of five members with Henry P. Davison as chairman, to administer with the approval of the Central Committee all American Red Cross activities during that period.

Following its reorganization, and especially during the European War, the American Red Cross met with unprecedented enlargement in membership and work. This enlargement brought about the need for a proportionate increase in administrative machinery. The National and Division Headquarters organization was accordingly created and functions under the direction of the chairman of the Central Committee.

The National Headquarters organization is charged with the operating responsibility for the Red

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Cross program. It consists of the chairman, vice-chairman, and their associates. These vice-chairmen are the Vice-Chairman in Charge of Domestic Operations and the Vice-Chairman in Charge of Foreign Operations. To each are delegated the duties of administering the various activities implied in his title. Under the Vice-Chairman of Domestic Operations are alined the Division and Chapter organization and the different types of service which the Red Cross conducts in the United States.

The Division organization is the link between National Headquarters and the local Red Cross Chapters. Each Division office consists of a manager and his staff. During the war there were fourteen divisions, but these have since been reduced to six and are now designated the New England, the Washington, the Southern, the Central, the Southwestern, and the Pacific Divisions. The territory of each covers the groups of States implied in these names.

The local unit of the Red Cross is the Chapter. It is responsible for all local Red Cross activities within its territory, subject to the policies and regulations of the national organization as enunciated by the manager of the Division within which the Chapter is located. The territory assigned to a Chapter is usually a county, and its members are the residents thereof who become members of the Red Cross through the yearly payment of membership dues. The officers of a Chapter are the chairman,

Purposes and Organization

the vice-chairman, the treasurer, and the secretary. They are elected by the members. The governing body of the Chapter is the Chapter Executive Committee, which is elected by its members.

Subject to the authority of a Chapter, subdivisions called Branches may be organized under the parent Chapter for the purpose of conducting Red Cross service in various districts lying within the territory and jurisdiction of the parent Chapter. Branches have dealings only with their parent Chapters and not with Division offices. Representatives of its branches are generally members of the Executive Committee of the parent Chapter. Funds and property of the branches are administered in accordance with the regulations and instructions governing that of the Chapter.

In considering the organization of the American Red Cross, perhaps the outstanding characteristic is its complete democracy. In addition to the election of their own officers, local Chapters have a voice in determining national policies through the six Chapter representatives who serve on the Central Committee and through resolutions which may be passed by Chapter delegates to the Red Cross Annual Convention or resolutions passed by Chapters' delegates to Red Cross Regional Conferences. The Annual Convention is held in Washington, D. C., each autumn just previous to the annual Roll-Call, or Red Cross membership drive, and Regional Con-

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ferences are usually held also in the autumn under the auspices of Division officials in a city convenient to a large number of Red Cross Chapters within that Division. Both to the Annual Convention and to Regional Conferences local Chapters send official delegates. In 1922 some 4500 of these Chapter representatives met in seventy to eighty Regional Conferences and discussed their Chapter problems. At the Annual Convention and at Regional Conferences the delegates by means of resolutions express their opinion regarding various Red Cross activities, and copies of these resolutions are always carefully considered by the Central and Executive Committees and the national officers of the society. Thus the national organization is kept constantly in touch with the wishes of its Chapter constituency.

MEMBERSHIP

There are seven classes of American Red Cross membership: annual, contributing, sustaining, supporting, life, patron, and honorary membership. Any citizen or resident of the United States may become a member by applying to the Central Committee or a Chapter and by the payment of dues. Annual members pay one dollar yearly, contributing members five dollars yearly, sustaining members ten dollars yearly, and supporting members twenty-five dollars yearly. A life member pays fifty dollars and a patron one hundred dollars. At the apex of Ameri-

Purposes and Organization

can Red Cross activity during the European War 3724 Chapters with 17,186 branches were in vigorous existence, with twenty million adult and eleven million Junior members. Of these Chapters over 3500 still continue various phases of Red Cross service, and the present membership of the American Red Cross includes many millions of women, men, and children, the largest of any national Red Cross society or welfare organization in the world.

FINANCES

The methods by which American Red Cross funds are handled should prove of interest to Red Cross members. Fifty cents of each of the annual, contributing, sustaining, and supporting membership dues are sent to National Headquarters for deposit in the General National Fund. The remainder is retained in the Chapter to which the member belongs, to defray the cost of Chapter activities.

All of the life and patron membership dues and all unrestricted legacies become part of the National Endowment Fund. This is a permanent fund which is administered under a board of nine trustees, six of whom are elected by the Board of Incorporators. The other three serve *ex officio* and are the Secretary of the Treasury, the Treasurer of the United States, and the representative of the Treasury Department on the Central Committee. Only the yearly interest on the Endowment Fund is available for current ex-

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penditure. This interest is credited to the General National Fund.

The General National Fund is the yearly national operating fund from which the Central Committee appropriates the amounts necessary to defray the administrative expenses of the National Headquarters and Division officers and to carry on the various services which the National Headquarters conducts in this country and overseas, both in time of war and peace. During the participation of the United States in the European War, the American public contributed to the Red Cross in money and material four hundred million dollars. Forty-two millions of this came from membership dues, two hundred and eighty-three millions from the two War Drives, and the remainder from miscellaneous sources.

The American Red Cross is essentially a volunteer organization. The man, woman, or child who gives his or her time and effort gratuitously to the Red Cross is the true supporter of the organization, and this service forms the lifeblood of the society without which it cannot hope long to exist. The members of the Central Committee, including the chairman, secretary, treasurer, and counselor, and the great majority of officials and workers of Chapters, receive no compensation other than that which lies in altruistic endeavor. Some lines of Red Cross service must, however, enter the professional fields of executive

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service, medicine, nursing, nutrition, and social work to carry out the purposes of the Charter, and for the successful accomplishment of these duties the Red Cross employs a highly trained personnel.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Following the reorganization of the Red Cross in 1905, three major needs of the society were soon recognized: These needs were for a national membership and participation in the American Red Cross, an adequate Endowment Fund, and a dignified and permanent home for the National Headquarters. Members of the Central Committee immediately set about to supply these needs, and the first two are still in process of consummation. The third, that for a dignified and permanent home, was secured largely through the initiation of Captain James A. Scrymser, of New York City, and the efforts of Miss Boardman. On January 25, 1917, the Headquarters organization moved into the beautiful building it now occupies on Seventeenth Street, facing the Ellipse of the White House and flanked on the left by the Corcoran Gallery of Art and on the right by Continental Memorial Hall of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Pan-American Building.

The history of the Memorial goes back to the service and sacrifice of a Civil War volunteer nurse, Arabella Barlow. She was the bride of Sergeant (later Brigadier-General) Francis Barlow, of the Twelfth



THE STAIRWAY AT NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Purposes and Organization

New York Regiment. General Barlow was thrice wounded, and thrice Mrs. Barlow appeared and nursed him back to health. She contracted typhus and died in 1864, but in the mind of her husband her gallantry and devotion lived as a symbol of the like service of all women in the Civil War. Shortly before his own death in 1896 General Barlow predicted in the presence of a friend and comrade in arms, Captain James A. Scrymser, that some day a grateful nation would erect a beautiful monument to the memory of these heroic women.

Remembering his friend's prophecy, Captain Scrymser in 1911 took definite steps to bring it into actuality. In 1912 a bill was introduced in Congress to appropriate \$400,000 for a site and building provided that private citizens contribute an additional sum of not less than \$300,000. By Captain Scrymser, Mrs. Russell Sage, Mrs. E. H. Harriman, and the Rockefeller Foundation \$400,000 was given. In October, 1913, the bill was passed and the erection of the building started. Four years later and on the eve of the United States' declaration of war with Germany it was ready for occupancy.

The building affords the society in perpetuity the varied housing facilities which its diverse activities require. Immediately inside the bronze front doors is a division of public information and reception for the many visitors who daily enter. Here a hostess is ready to take visitors over the building. Leading

The American National Red Cross

from the marble corridors are offices of administration, and a central marble stairway ascends to the second floor. In the windows of the stairway stand three marble busts by Hiram Power, typifying Faith, Hope, and Charity. Below them on the landing is the dedication plate, on marble and in letters of gold:

A MEMORIAL

BUILT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES AND PATRIOTIC CITIZENS
TO THE WOMEN OF THE NORTH
AND THE WOMEN OF THE SOUTH

HELD IN LOVING MEMORY
BY A NOW UNITED COUNTRY

THAT THEIR LABORS TO MITIGATE THE
SUFFERINGS OF THE SICK AND WOUNDED
IN WAR MAY BE PERPETUATED THIS
MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF
THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

On the second floor are offices including that of the chairman of the Central Committee; an Executive Committee room paneled and furnished in fumed oak; and a large white assembly-room which serves as the annual meeting-place for the General Board and other Red Cross and patriotic groups. Through a



THE ASSEMBLY ROOM, SHOWING THE MEMORIAL WINDOWS

The American National Red Cross

gift from Mrs. Adolphus Busch of St. Louis, this assembly-room was finished and furnished with crystal lighting fixtures, crimson velvet rugs and hangings, and oak furniture. In the north wall are three famous windows which visualize in traditional figures the Red Cross ideal of compassionate service. The left window, the gift of the Women's Relief Corps of the North, shows St. Filomena, patron saint of the sick, with the Red Cross shield at her feet; behind her troop her handmaidens, Mercy, Hope, Faith, and Charity. The right window, the gift of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, shows *Una*, of Spenser's "Faerie Queen," typifying fortitude, her apron spilling the red roses symbolic of good deeds. The central window, the joint gift of both organizations, shows the Red Cross Knight who has dismounted from his steed to minister to a wounded comrade. Beyond him sweep forward armored horsemen, some bearing spears and others white banners emblazoned with the Red Cross emblem. This window typifies the Red Cross riding side by side with armies in war.

On the third floor of the Headquarters Building are the Red Cross library and additional offices. An annex provides offices for other Red Cross officials and for the clerical and accounting staffs.

THE MUSEUM

In the basement is the Red Cross Museum. Its colorful exhibits are also to be seen in corridors



THE LEFT WINDOW



THE MIDDLE WINDOW



THE RIGHT WINDOW

The American National Red Cross

throughout the Headquarters Building. This museum was opened in September, 1919, and was organized as a memorial to all Red Cross workers of the World War. It bears the distinction of being the first Red Cross museum in the world and is also unique among other museums because it depicts not only past activities of the society but keeps the living Red Cross before the public eye.

This visualization of past and present American Red Cross service is achieved largely through miniature models, a method of museum technique which in itself is unique. In addition, flags, historical documents, photographs, and a famous doll of the Sanitary Commission; expressions of gratitude in the form of medals, illuminated parchments, embroideries, costumes, and other handiwork from the many nations which have been aided by the American Red Cross; and photographs and mementos of the founders of the Red Cross movement are to be seen. The exhibits relating to the European War are many and varied. An entire room is given over to the visualization of post-war activities and another to Red Cross service in time of peace. In addition to these displays at Headquarters, special Red Cross exhibits are prepared at the request of educational and medical associations for use at conventions. Traveling exhibits also are assembled and sent to Division Headquarters for display at state Red Cross meetings, county fairs, and other large gatherings. To

Purposes and Organization

these observers in the field and to the hundreds of visitors who come daily to National Headquarters the Museum brings a clear appreciation and a vivid picture of Red Cross effort and accomplishment.

"THE RED CROSS COURIER"

Every week at National Headquarters is published "The Red Cross Courier." It covers the entire field of Red Cross operations. Not only does it carry the news of national American Red Cross undertakings but in its pages are to be found also accounts of interesting and significant activities of the more than three thousand Red Cross Chapters. It is profusely illustrated. The subscription price is one dollar a year, postpaid.

Through this brief account of its Charter powers and purposes, its form of organization, its membership, finances, and permanent Headquarters, it is hoped that the reader will appreciate the dual nature of the American Red Cross. Being as it is a volunteer society of the American people, yet chartered by Congress for certain specified duties and possessed of certain definite relationships to the Government of the United States, it possesses many advantages. As a volunteer society, it is permitted a flexibility of organization and a financial freedom greater than would be possible were it operated only under government agencies. Yet as a chartered organization of

The American National Red Cross

the Government, it receives the highest official protection and sanction, and its yearly Congressional report and official audit serves as a check on the society's policies and expenditures. Thus the American Red Cross is actually the American people striving in time of war and peace to mitigate suffering. How this service is given and in what fields will be set forth in subsequent chapters.

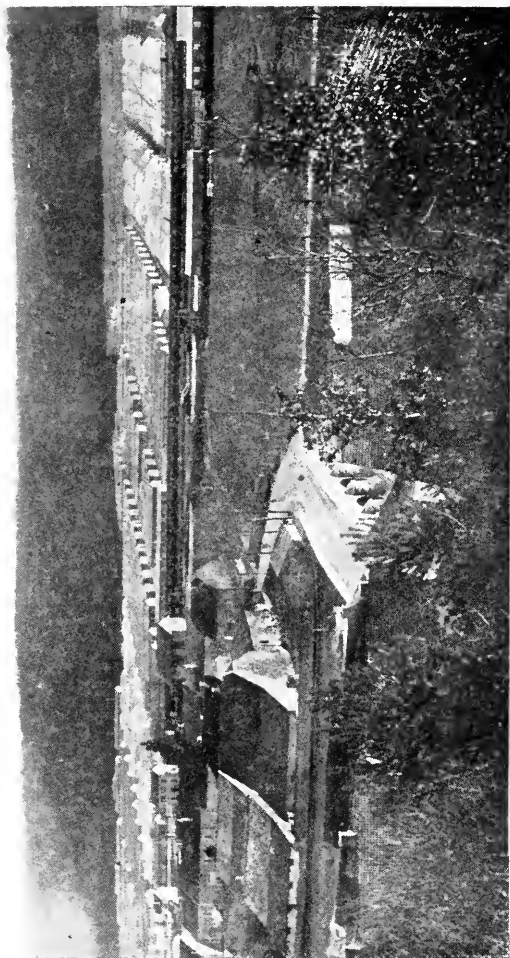
CHAPTER III

DUTIES TO THE SICK AND WOUNDED OF ARMIES IN WAR

. . . To furnish volunteer aid to the sick and wounded of armies in time of war in accordance with the spirit and conditions of the Treaty of Geneva. . . .

THUS does its Congressional Charter define the initial duty of the American Red Cross. Outstanding needs of the wounded and sick soldier are for a comfortable bed in an environment conducive to recovery, for skilled medical and nursing care, for adequate surgical dressings and hospital supplies, for suitable food, and for some recreational facilities. All these the American Red Cross helps to supply.

The first necessity, that of a comfortable bed in an environment conducive to recovery, is given the wounded man in a base hospital. Indeed, the entire care of the wounded and sick in war swings about this type of unit, because here also he receives the specialized treatment necessary to recovery and reconstruction. Moreover, from the base hospitals are usually organized the smaller mobile units which care for him in the zone of the advance, where he is first



AN AMERICAN RED CROSS BASE HOSPITAL IN ACTION
At U. S. Army hospital center, Bazoilles, France

Duties to the Sick and Wounded in War

injured. Undoubtedly it is the duty of the Government to organize and equip base hospitals. These units, however, are too costly to be maintained in time of peace in adequate numbers for war duty and too large and complex to be organized efficiently immediately following a declaration of war. Hence the organization of base hospitals may well be entrusted to a semi-governmental agency such as the Red Cross, because it possesses funds independent of Congressional appropriation and its actions do not bear official weight.

In the organization and equipment of fifty-four base hospitals for the Army and six for the Navy, the society accomplished the greatest single piece of medical preparedness in the history of medicine or war. This work was begun in January, 1916, by General Jefferson R. Kean, Medical Corps, U. S. A., who was for fifteen months assigned to National Red Cross Headquarters from the Surgeon-General's office for this purpose. The details of this organization consisted in recruiting a professional and subordinate administrative personnel of 265 persons for each unit from the permanent staffs of leading civilian hospitals throughout the country. Equipment ranging from thermometers to refrigerating systems was purchased by Red Cross Chapters located in the cities of the parent hospitals and was stored in convenient warehouses. This equipment cost an average of \$75,000 for each unit, and the

The American National Red Cross

American Red Cross expended a total of \$3,000,000 in the equipment of the fifty-four Army and six Navy base hospitals. After the last bed had been stored away and the last surgeon and nurse had agreed to respond on call, the muster-in-roll of each unit was sent to the office of the Surgeon-General, U. S. Army or Navy, and was there filed as reserve personnel of the military establishment.

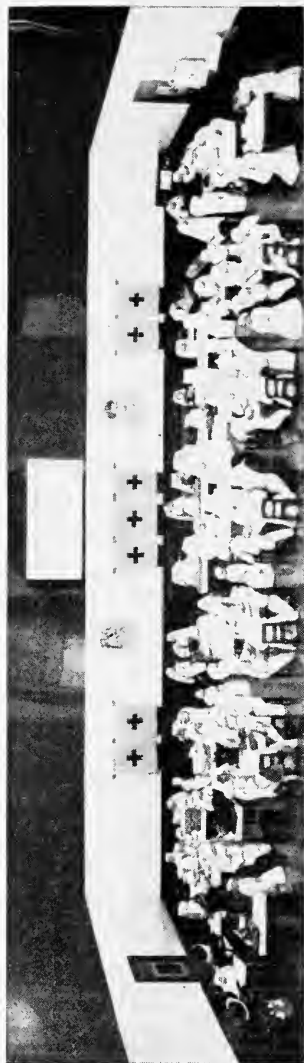
When the United States declared war on Germany, twenty-five of these base hospitals for the Army were ready for immediate service overseas. Surgeon-General Gorgas on April 6, 1917, assigned six of them to duty with the British Expeditionary Forces, and this vanguard of the hosts of healing were the first U. S. troops sent to Europe. Others of the fifty-four sailed in short order. On the eve of the Allied offensive of July 18, 1918, the turning-point of the European War and the beginning of heavy American casualties, the American Expeditionary Forces were maintaining forty-five base hospitals in France and England, thirty-nine of which had been organized and equipped by the American Red Cross.

The second need of the wounded man is for expert medical and nursing care. In the recruiting of the medical and nursing staffs of its base hospitals, the Red Cross rendered broad service in this field. As regards nursing care, here the society renders perhaps its most vital and personal service to the wounded soldier, for the American Red Cross Nurs-

Duties to the Sick and Wounded in War

ing Service is the official reserve of the Army by Congressional enactment and of the Navy by the request of its Surgeon-General. In time of peace American Red Cross nurses are enrolled for future patriotic service. When war is declared, the Red Cross calls them into active duty, equips them if necessary, and refers them to the Army and Navy Nurse Corps, into which they are assimilated to form the nursing strength thereof. Thus when the United States took up arms against Germany, American Red Cross nurses to the number of eighteen thousand went into the Army and Navy Nurse Corps. Approximately half of them were held in Army cantonments and Navy station hospitals at home to nurse the sick and to better general health conditions by doing public health nursing and sanitary inspection in the extra-cantonment zones so that the military establishment might be able to send healthy men overseas. After their period of training the American Expeditionary Forces embarked for France, and the other nine thousand reserve nurses went with them and nursed the wounded and sick in American base hospitals in France, on hospital trains, and even in evacuation and field units in the zone of the advance. Two out of every three Navy nurses and four out of every five Army nurses were Red Cross nurses.

A third paramount need of the wounded soldier is for surgical supplies and hospital garments. During



Model in Red Cross Museum

A RED CROSS WORKROOM

Duties to the Sick and Wounded in War

the European War eight million American women and children in Red Cross Chapter workrooms made 371,500,000 relief articles such as surgical dressings, refugee garments, comfort bags, front-line packets, and other articles too numerous to mention. These articles were sent to camps in this country and overseas and were everywhere distributed and used. Is there a woman in the United States who did not give at least one hour during the period of the European War to Red Cross service? Busy housewives were glad to plan their day's routine so that they could spend an afternoon each week in a Red Cross production-room, factory girls gave an evening's time, and tired farmers' wives eagerly drove miles to community schools or churches for yarn to be knitted for soldiers and sailors. Among all these eight million workers is there one who does not now look back on these hours with a satisfying sense of time well spent?

A fourth and last necessity of the wounded or sick soldier is for refreshments and a friendly greeting to cheer him on his way from trench to convalescence. These the Red Cross supplied through its canteen, recreation hut, and social service.

SERVICE IN THE ZONE OF THE ADVANCE

Come now with the man who goes over the top, is desperately wounded, and is brought back to the trenches. A Red Cross front-line packet is torn



Model in Red Cross Museum

A FIRST AID STATION

Duties to the Sick and Wounded in War

open, the dressing deftly folded by women in a Chapter workroom is hastily applied to his wound, he is placed on a stretcher and hurried to a first aid station which is usually located in a camouflaged dugout immediately behind the trenches. There an Army surgeon dresses his wounds and, if necessary, gives him the morphine which will make endurable the journey to the base. The stretcher on which he lies is then placed in an ambulance and rushed to the nearest evacuation hospital.

To transport sick and wounded during the European War and generally to further the aims of the society, the American Red Cross organized an extensive Motor Corps in the United States and an ambulance service overseas. Here at home the Motor Corps numbered over 12,000 women, who donated their time and the use of their cars. For ambulance duty overseas, 47 ambulance companies with a total of 4760 men, 564 ambulances, and 141 trucks were organized by the Red Cross and turned over to the Army. The service which these men rendered was valuable in the extreme, because in addition to their routine duties they tried to be general handy men around the hospitals.

The evacuation hospital is located as near to the first aid station as safety permits. To each American division of combat troops during the European War were attached two such hospitals, and they were usually set up in the mud and filth of shell-

The American National Red Cross

plowed and deserted battle-fields. Some evacuation hospitals were housed in wooden barracks, but the mobile ones were under canvas. The bed capacity ranged from five hundred patients to as many wounded as came in. Within a few hours following a particular drive, the ambulances would begin arriving.

From the ambulances the desperately wounded men were taken immediately to "shock" tents, where nurses of great professional skill cut away their clothing, wrapped them in hot blankets, surrounded them with hot-water bags, and gave them dry hot-air baths. Transfusions were given and hot nourishment supplied. The Red Cross through its Canteen Service furnished eggs, milk, coffee, cocoa, chocolate, and sometimes even fruit to patients in the "shock" tents, and these articles of diet revived the ebbing strength and saved the life of many a man too sick to eat any other kind of food. Only those who know the true conditions at the Western Front can realize how stupendous was this task of supplying such articles so near the line.

The stretchers on which lay the less severely wounded were placed in preoperative wards, in corridors, and on the grass in front of the hospital until their turn came in the operating-rooms. While they waited, the Red Cross canteen women went among them, giving some water to drink and others coffee or chocolate, here tucking a pillow under a boy's head, there cheering up with merry words the man



Original in Red Cross Museum

"THE SPIRIT OF SERVICE," BY ARTHUR HAZARD
A memorial painting to the American Red Cross Nursing Service
[51]

The American National Red Cross

next in line for the operating-tables. At intervals orderlies would come out, take up a laden stretcher, and carry it into the operating-tents, where nurses and surgeons alike worked on night and day shifts, with three hours' rest in twenty-four, until all the wounded had been cared for.

After a period of rest in post-operative wards, the wounded man was evacuated to the rear. This leg of the journey was made on a hospital train of the U. S. Medical Corps. These trains were luxuriously equipped to carry four hundred patients and were staffed by three nurses, two surgeons, and thirty-six Medical Corps men. The loading of the trains usually took place at night, and the journey to the base often took three to five times as long as under peace conditions. Right of way was necessarily given to trains carrying combat troops and supplies to the front, and so the hospital trains were held on sidings and the wounded endured as best they could dirt, heat, flies, the nauseous smells of gangrenous wounds, and the irritation of the bandages due to the continual jolting of the cars. Here again entered the Red Cross canteen women with lemonade, ice-cream, bouillon, coffee, cigarettes, magazines, and unquenchable good cheer.

SERVICE IN THE ZONE OF THE BASE

The destination of the hospital train was the base hospital. American Red Cross service in recruiting



FEEDING A DESPERATELY WOUNDED SOLDIER



UNLOADING A PATIENT FROM A HOSPITAL TRAIN

Duties to the Sick and Wounded in War

the staffs and buying the equipment of fifty-four of these has already been mentioned. In addition to these professional phases, the society's services to the wounded in the base hospital zone were more extensive and varied than anywhere else. They consisted in supplying everything for the soldier's comfort and welfare which military exigency could not provide.

Perhaps the most appreciated phase of Red Cross service in the base hospital zone were the recreational facilities which the society furnished for nurses and soldiers. Nurses' quarters were often crowded, with little space in which the tired women might find relaxation and a change of environment after hours on duty, and so the American Red Cross built near the base hospital in military encampments both in the United States and overseas special recreational houses where the nurses might read, sew, entertain their friends, and serve light meals.

For convalescing soldier-patients, too, the society maintained similar establishments, which often became the center of the social life in the entire hospital encampment. In camps in the United States these were called recreation-houses, while those in France were known as recreation-huts. Both types were comfortably furnished with wicker chairs and long tables, had gay cretonne curtains at the windows and cheerful posters on the walls, and were staffed by American Red Cross girls and women



"PACK UP YOUR TROUBLES IN YOUR OLD KIT-BAG"

Duties to the Sick and Wounded in War

who served free of charge hot and cold food and gave away stationery, cigarettes, and the many supplementary comforts prepared by Chapter workers. Between April, 1917, and March, 1919, the American Red Cross maintained ninety-two recreation-houses in the United States and ninety-one huts in France. To them came convalescing soldiers as soon as they could hobble or wheel themselves about and there whiled away many a tedious hour writing letters or reading or watching the motion-picture and vaudeville performances which were given from time to time, or playing checkers or chess with buddies or talking to the Red Cross ladies.

For men too sick to leave their beds, the Red Cross secured and sent to France social service workers called searchers, who were assigned to the base hospitals and visited the men in the wards. Their duties, as expressed by one of them, were to distribute to the soldiers the many comforts and luxuries which the Red Cross provided; to write letters for them regarding financial and other personal matters that were worrying them; to cheer and try to inspire the crippled man to take up with courage the task of going maimed through life; to see in every soldier the son, brother, or husband of some woman back home who was longing for word of him, and to send that word to her through Home Communication machinery; to try and help those who knew that they would never go home to get away from the horror



"TELL 'EM I'M DOING FINE."

Duties to the Sick and Wounded in War

of dying in a strange land and to realize that they were as near an Infinite Love there as at home; and to get flowers, attend funerals, and write these pitiful details to the dead soldier's parents.

AN EMERGENCY ARM OF THE U. S. MEDICAL CORPS

In addition to these routine duties which are given in all Army and Navy forward and base units, the American Red Cross acted as an emergency arm of the U. S. Medical Corps in the field. When a military crisis created a need for an emergency hospital at a given point, the society at the request of the Army Medical Corps organized it, equipped it from its own warehouses, staffed it with its own personnel, and, when it was running efficiently, turned it over to the Army authorities. Twenty-nine such Red Cross emergency hospitals were organized in France for the benefit of the American Expeditionary Forces.

When General Pershing's First Division arrived overseas in 1917, the Americans were assigned to the southeastern sector of the Western Front and established behind this area the principal base hospitals of the Medical Corps. All American Army medical units were thus barred from the environs of Paris, then in the heart of the French Army Zone. The Allied war plans were, however, changed early in 1918, and American divisions were brigaded among British and French troops all along the Western

The American National Red Cross

Front. Arrangements were made whereby American wounded and sick among these troops would be sent back through British and French hospitals and would receive in them the same care given to a wounded Tommy or *poilu*. The American Red Cross was allowed to send nurses and aides with supplies into the French hospitals, so that the American wounded might find near them in their hour of need women who spoke their language and would care for them in the ways to which they were accustomed. Two hundred and five American Red Cross nurses and aides served in 151 French military hospitals and cared for over three thousand American soldiers. When time permitted, they helped also with the French wounded and distributed supplies in the French wards.

Paris was the objective of the five great German offensives of 1918. In the third drive, Soissons fell and the French Army lost more than fifty thousand hospital beds. They could not care for their own wounded, much less for the Americans wounded at Montdidier, Cambrai, Belleau Wood, Château-Thierry, and other points of the Paris zone. The American Red Cross in France stepped into the breach and organized emergency evacuation hospitals behind these points and enormous base hospitals in and near Paris. In addition to the fifty-four original base hospital units, the Red Cross organized and equipped twenty-nine of these emer-

Duties to the Sick and Wounded in War

gency hospitals and maintained them until the Army was prepared to take them over. In the twenty months previous to March 1, 1919, these twenty-



A RED CROSS WARD VISITOR

nine hospitals cared for 86,787 American soldiers, one third of the entire battle casualties of the American Expeditionary Forces.



SETTING UP AN EMERGENCY RED CROSS HOSPITAL NEAR CHÂTEAU-THIERRY

Duties to the Sick and Wounded in War

In brief, such is the service which the American Red Cross renders to the sick and wounded of armies in war through the efforts of its tired-eyed nurses and physicians, its corps of hospital men such as orderlies, cooks, and mechanics, its motor-transport drivers, its patient knitters and makers of surgical dressings, its canteen women, and its hospital hut hostesses and searchers. What it does for the Army it did and does also for the Navy, providing base hospitals and comforts for sick and wounded sailors in port and at sea.

CHAPTER IV

A MEDIUM OF COMMUNICATION

. . . To act in matters of voluntary relief as a medium of communication between the people of the United States and their Army and Navy. . . .

THUS does the Charter of Incorporation define the fourth duty of the American Red Cross, a duty directed primarily to the well soldier, sailor, and marine. In this field in time of war the society develops social service to families of soldiers, establishes communication between soldiers and their families, conducts prisoners' relief, and maintains an elaborate system of canteen and rest-house service to combat and supply troops. Each of these will be briefly described in turn.

HOME SERVICE

Red Cross social work among men in military service and their families is known as Home Service. The well-being of his family at home means the heightened morale of a man in service, and so in each Army and Navy station during the European War Red Cross social service workers were on duty,

A Medium of Communication

and to them came the soldiers and sailors for advice and aid after they had received word through letters from home that their families were in trouble. These Red Cross social service workers in their turn brought to the attention of the proper Red Cross Chapter back home these personal problems which had disturbed the men in camp, and the Chapters through their Home Service secretaries rendered the necessary aid. Representing as they did the American people, the local Chapters were thus the medium of communication between the American people and the men of their Army and Navy, and thus the name "Home Service" came into popular usage wherever American soldiers were stationed. From April, 1917, to March, 1919, the families of one out of every eight American soldiers received some type of Home Service.

COMMUNICATION SERVICE

The establishment of communication between a soldier wounded, sick, or missing in action and members of his family waiting anxiously at home for word of him is a literal translation of the society's Charter responsibilities. During the twenty months ending February 28, 1919, the Red Cross sent 105,456 reports to families regarding well, sick, wounded, and deceased American soldiers and 28,407 others regarding prisoners, men missing in action, and details of death. The staff of the Home Communica-



ARGONNE CEMETERY, ROMAGNE, FRANCE, WHERE 22,000 AMERICAN SOLDIERS LIE BURIED

A Medium of Communication

tion Department in November, 1918, numbered 335 workers in the United States and 250 searchers in France. "Ours was an unchanging routine of dictating and writing letters," wrote one of the Headquarters clerical force, "but we got our joy from the brief thanks hastily scribbled on a postal card by a soldier to whom we had supplied information, or from a letter from some woman telling us the comfort she took in knowing where and how her son had died." Out of the mortality letters grew the Red Cross grave photography service through which the society sent to the parents of men buried in France a photograph of his grave. This phase of communication involved the taking of 170,000 photographs, the negatives of which are now filed in War Department archives.

PRISONERS' RELIEF

Prisoners' relief is a traditional Red Cross obligation. During the European War the American Red Cross despatched a commission to Berne, Switzerland, and through it sent weekly supplies to 3604 American prisoners held in seventy-two enemy prison camps. When this service was first initiated, the American Red Cross furnished all supplies free of charge, but later the Army and Navy provided essentials for its own prisoners. The Red Cross supplemented these with luxury items and continued its supply to civilian and foreign prisoners.



AMERICAN SOLDIERS ASLEEP AT A RAILROAD STATION
One good reason for Red Cross canteens and rest-houses

A Medium of Communication

The system under which these supplies were given is of interest. When an American prisoner arrived in a German or Austrian camp, the camp authorities notified the American Red Cross in Berne, and the famous "first packet" containing a complete set of warm clothing and toilet articles was sent to him with a twenty-pound packet of food. Following the first consignments, the food packet was sent weekly to each prisoner and additional clothes and toilet articles were requisitioned on need. All packets were addressed to the prison authorities and delivered by them to the prisoners, who personally signed a receipt inclosed in each packet. These receipts were then returned by the prison authorities to the American Red Cross office in Berne. Returned receipts show that ninety per cent of the parcels reached their destination.

CANTEEN SERVICE

Only one out of a group of several soldiers is killed or suffers a wound, is taken sick or captured in war. During the European conflict this ratio was one out of every twenty men. To each of the nineteen others who came out uninjured and scot-free, the sight of a Red Cross brings back vividly the memory of some brightly lighted canteen toward which he stumbled in the rain and wind. Again he sees the cheerful interior with its gay cretonnes and wicker furniture; the boys reading or writing at the

The American National Red Cross

long tables or lounging about in sociable groups; the long counter at the rear with its savory food and cigarettes; and behind it some blue-clad, white-coifed canteen girl ready and eager to talk to him.



THE CUP THAT CHEERS

Developed primarily to give supplementary food or complete meals to moving troops, Red Cross canteen service has grown to be the principal means through which the society expresses the good will of the American people to its Army and Navy.



"SET 'EM UP, SISTER!"



BEDS IN AN AMERICAN RED CROSS REST-HOUSE IN PARIS

For use by American soldiers on leave

A Medium of Communication

During the European War 700 Red Cross canteens were maintained in the United States and 130 others in France. The most frequent type in the United States was the railroad canteen, and, in France, the base canteen, the line-of-communications canteen, the front-line canteen, and the outpost service.

THE RAILROAD CANTEEN IN THE UNITED STATES

The railroad canteen in the United States was usually located in any convenient and accessible building in the railroad yard. When the troop trains came in, candy, chocolate, coffee, cookies, doughnuts, pies, fruit, ice-cream, sandwiches, tobacco, magazines, newspapers, and sometimes paper-box lunches or complete meals were served cafeteria-fashion to the soldiers. If time did not permit the men to be evacuated from the trains, the canteen women went through the coaches distributing their supplies. During the twenty months in which the United States participated in the European War refreshments were served forty million times in canteens in this country; in other words, every soldier, sailor, and marine was eight times served free of charge. Fifty-five thousand women gave their time gratuitously to this service. No hour was too early or too late for them to go on duty, and no amount of persuasion sufficient to induce them to break their pledge of secrecy regarding the movement of troops. They took pride in their discipline.

The American National Red Cross

THE BASE CANTEEN IN FRANCE

In France were the base, line-of-communications, front-line, and outpost canteens. The famous Tent City in Paris, where fifteen hundred American soldiers on leave were daily given free of charge food and a night's lodging, or the canteens at aviation training centers are typical of base canteens. In these permanent base establishments the canteen staff sometimes maintained, as at the Issoudun Flying Field, a special diet service for the patients of the camp hospital; an officers' mess; a mending shop where soldiers' uniforms were renovated and mended; and a laundry and a shower-bath system for every one in camp.

THE L. O. C. CANTEEN

The line-of-communications canteens were located in the French cities connecting the base sections with the front. Sometimes as at Limoges the canteen boasted also an infirmary, several rest-rooms, and barracks where enlisted men and officers might sleep for a few hours, take a shower, and have a meal. Line-of-communications canteens served alike American and Allied troops. That at Epernay, Marne, fed, warmed, and cheered daily thousands of *poilus* going gay and debonair on their cherished leave or returning with somber eyes to shiver again in muddy or frozen trenches. At Châlons during



A LINE-OF-COMMUNICATIONS CANTEN



A FRONT-LINE CANTEN

A Medium of Communication

1917 and early in 1918 the American canteen fed mostly French troops and, during the summer drives of 1918, Allied soldiers, refugees, and thousands of Americans; for Châlons was a key city and the troop trains moved steadily past the brave Red Cross canteen. Rarely a day went by that the Châlons and Epernay canteens did not vibrate to the roar of the great cannon battering first Rheims and then Château-Thierry, and never a full moon rose that did not bring the enemy's bombing-planes.

FRONT-LINE AND OUTPOST CANTEENS

The two types of canteen service given in the zone of the advance were the front-line canteen and the outpost in the trenches. The front-line canteens, of which there were twenty-two, were located where they could serve both evacuation hospitals and troops going into and coming out of the trenches. They were usually staffed by canteen women, who went in camions to villages which were often only the memory of a town; found, if possible, a house on which the roof still remained; improvised in it a counter by putting a board across supply boxes; and fed coffee, doughnuts, sandwiches, and anything eatable on which they could lay their hands to despatch runners, truck and ambulance drivers and passing troops of all types.

The outpost service consisted of supplying cocoa, tobacco, newspapers, and magazines to troops in



THE RED CROSS OUTPOST



"A STITCH IN TIME"

The American National Red Cross

the supporting trenches, to first aid dressing-stations, and to troops in transit. Each outpost was centered around a tent-warehouse located as near the front as artillery fire permitted, and was developed entirely by men. The headquarters were located often in an old storehouse or camouflaged stable. Every night the men going in and coming out of the trenches would pass through the stable and stop long enough to drink a mug of chocolate, smoke several cigarettes, and glance over the stock of newspapers. French troops and working parties were also served, and from a storeroom and counter candy, tobacco, and toilet articles were distributed free of charge. The top floor of the storehouse was often fitted up with cots and blankets, and exhausted and slightly sick soldiers went up there for rest. Three or four times a week the outpost staff would go up to the trenches and distribute supplies to the men holding the line.

Such, in brief, are the general ways in which the American Red Cross, through the services of its Chapter Home Service secretaries, its searchers and hospital visitors, its prisoners' relief committee members, its indefatigable merry canteeners, and its outpost men, acts as a medium of communication between the American people and their Army and Navy.

CHAPTER V

DUTIES TO CIVILIAN SUFFERERS IN WAR

THE American Red Cross interprets its Charter clause "to furnish volunteer aid to the sick and wounded of armies in war" to embrace also civilian sufferers of belligerent nations. During the European War the society extended its aid to the sick and wounded in war in Great Britain, France, Belgium, Russia, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy, Rumania, Serbia, Greece, Palestine, Poland, and Siberia.

When the United States is neutral to a cause involving other nations in war, the American Red Cross may offer its aid alike to all belligerents. A month after the outbreak of the European War, the white mercy ship *Red Cross* steamed down New York Harbor bound for Europe, with its decks crowded with American Red Cross nurses and surgeons and its hold filled with relief supplies. These nurses and surgeons were grouped into units consisting each of twelve nurses and three surgeons. Two units, each with medical supplies, were assigned to England, Belgium, France. Russia, Germany,

The American National Red Cross

Austria, and Hungary, and one unit, and later two more, to Serbia. As an expression of American sympathy the units served a year in the country to which they were assigned and were then recalled because of limited funds and the ominous war-clouds threatening the United States.

When Congress declares war on another nation, however, the American Red Cross, as has been shown, becomes an emergency arm of the U. S. Army Medical Corps, and portions of its personnel are assimilated therewith. Thus after April 6, 1917, American Red Cross relief among the Central Powers was no longer offered or welcomed, and the society's efforts in foreign civilian relief were confined to sufferers of the Allied nations.

France, the battle-ground of the war, was the theater of the most extensive civilian relief of the American Red Cross overseas. With her cities and towns crowded by millions of men of the Allied armies eating her limited food supplies and filling her limited dwellings; with Paris frequently shelled and in the spring of 1918 in constant danger of falling into the enemy's hands; with the industries of the republic working night and day; with ten of its richest northern departments devastated and many thousands of refugees therefrom wandering homeless, diseased, and broken-spirited in the central and southern parts of France; with three millions more living in the devastated territory as



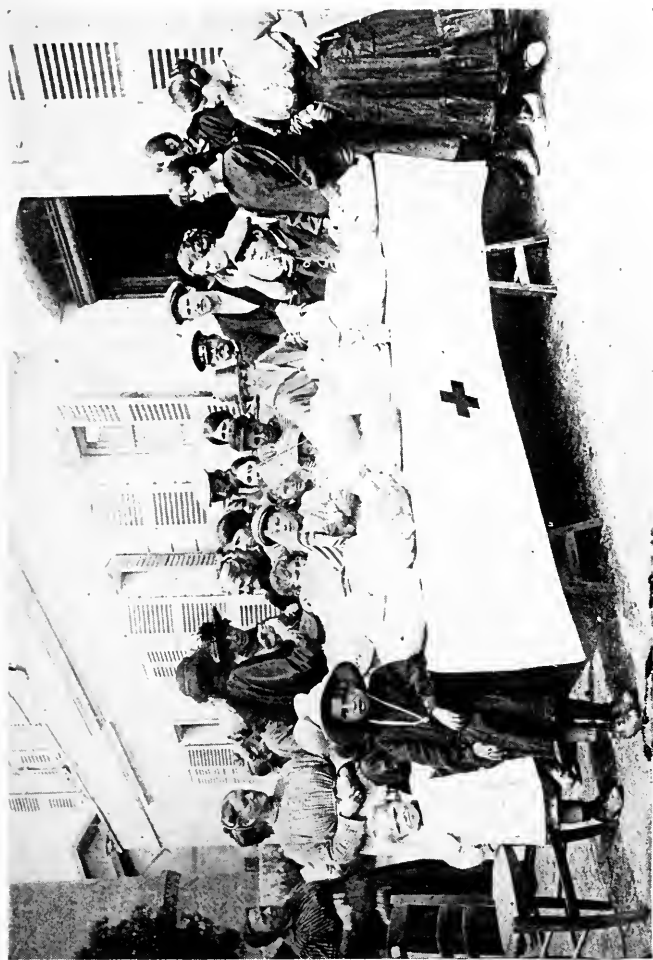
THE REFUGEES

The American National Red Cross

best they could; with two adults dying to each baby born, the French civilian population was in dire need of help.

In twenty-five children's hospitals and homes, in ninety-nine dispensaries and clinics, in school canteens, and in playgrounds, the American Red Cross expended \$3,013,505.93 in caring for 364,457 sick and undernourished French children. With a total expenditure of \$9,225,805.34 the American Red Cross helped to feed, clothe, and house 1,726,354 French refugees. For tuberculous French soldiers and civilians, the society expended \$2,372,619.61 in the establishment and maintenance of five American Red Cross tuberculosis hospitals and in aiding 847 French tuberculosis institutions. These expenditures for the benefit of the French civilian population alone aggregated over fourteen and one half million dollars.

In the other Allied nations already enumerated, the American Red Cross conducted relief measures representing a total expenditure of seventy-five million dollars. To aid Greek refugees who fled from Asia Minor following Turkish victories there in 1922, the society has since expended another two and one half million dollars. Unfortunately, however, no mere statement of the thousands of people who were fed, clothed, nursed, and given shelter will ever present a true picture of the extent and meaning of this international phase of American Red



DISTRIBUTING CLOTHING TO FRENCH REFUGEES

The American National Red Cross

Cross endeavor. The gratitude of nations is usually expressed in elegant and fluent words, and the American Red Cross has received many such prized testimonials as a result of its civilian relief work in Europe and Asia. This gratitude may also be expressed in the traditions of the common people. The American Red Cross likes best to hope that when the wind howls outside and the fire blazes up on many a French and Belgian, Italian, Greek and Slavic hearthstone, the grandmother of the household will call the children about her knee and tell the story of how the American people through their American Red Cross came over from across the sea to help in an hour of need.

Such a story, if it is ever told, will be to the enduring glory of the society and the American people. Moreover, it will be a worthy herald to the dawn of a warless day.

CHAPTER VI

DISASTER RELIEF DUTIES

... To continue and carry on a system of national and international relief in time of peace; and to apply the same in mitigating the sufferings caused by pestilence, famine, fire, floods and other great national calamities; and to devise and carry on measures for preventing the same.

THUS does the Congressional Charter define the fifth duty of the American Red Cross, a duty which may call the society into immediate action at any moment of the night or day, during war or peace. This fifth purpose-clause of the Charter now finds expression through three distinct phases of Red Cross effort: first, in carrying on disaster relief measures; second, in carrying on preparedness measures both for disaster and war relief; and, third, in carrying on disaster prevention measures. Only the need for and extent of Red Cross disaster relief will be taken up, however, in this chapter. The continuing war relief, preparedness, and prevention measures will be treated each in a subsequent chapter.

The impulse of compassionate sympathy which seeks through the Red Cross to aid the victims of



Photo by courtesy of U. S. Forest Service A FOREST FIRE

Disaster Relief Duties

war seeks also through the Red Cross to aid the victims of disaster. Within the twenty years following the Diplomatic Convention of 1864, the German and Russian Red Cross Societies had recognized this duty as an important phase of the Red Cross ideal. The American Red Cross now interprets the disaster relief clause of its Charter as an obligation parallel to that of war relief and carries on extensive routine duties each year in this field. Since 1881, it has expended \$20,500,000 in disaster relief. The four years during which the society has expended the largest amounts are in 1906, the year of the San Francisco fire; in 1913, the year of the Ohio floods; in 1919, the fiscal year of the influenza epidemic and the Corpus Christi flood; and in 1923, the year of the Japanese earthquake and fire.

Disasters have taken and take many different forms. Experience has shown that certain ones arise each year from natural causes and follow the march of the seasons, such as the Mississippi and Ohio River floods in the spring, cyclones and tornadoes in the spring and summer, and forest fires in the autumn. Other disasters occur as the results of the modern systems of transportation, industry, and housing. In addition to these local and comparatively minor disasters, there are the cataclysmic upheavals, such as volcanic eruptions, famines, and earthquakes, which seem to strike in some part of the world at least once in every generation. These



Photo by courtesy of U. S. Forest Service

AFTER THE FLAMES HAVE SUBSIDED

Disaster Relief Duties

major disasters fall naturally into nine groups: forest fires, cyclones, floods, conflagrations, mining accidents, pestilence, earthquakes, volcanoes, and famine; in addition there are also such minor disasters as shipwrecks, train wrecks, building-collapses, and explosions. Each type has its routine and its extraordinary example, and each will be considered in turn.

FOREST FIRES

An example of the type and extent of Red Cross aid which is rendered yearly to victims of forest fires may be seen in the instance of the Minnesota fires of 1910. Early in October fire swept across sixteen hundred square miles of timberland and consumed everything in its path. Four villages were burned out of existence, and about twenty-five hundred lumberjacks and Scandinavian homesteaders fled before the blaze. When the fires died down, much growing and cut timber and many crops and houses had been destroyed and a considerable number of domestic animals suffocated or burned to death.

Into this wilderness of charred and smoking débris the Red Cross sent units of Red Cross nurses, surgeons, and relief workers with wagons loaded with food, clothing, and medical supplies. Shelter tents and barracks were erected, bread-lines formed, and clothing distributed. To care for fire and fever victims a stone building in one of the former villages

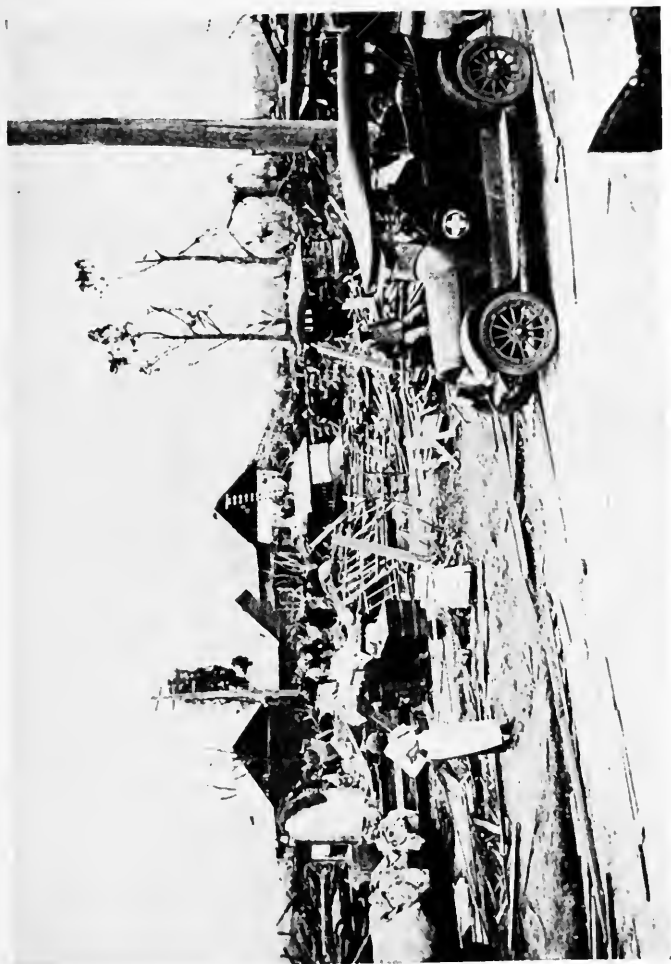
The American National Red Cross

was converted into a hospital. After emergency relief comes permanent rehabilitation. Just over the Canadian border was a large lumber-mill, and so the Red Cross secured a waiver of custom duties and imported quantities of cut timber. House-raising parties under the direction of master carpenters were organized, and when a dwelling had been completed the Red Cross committee ordered in household furnishings. When the bitter northern winter set in, suffering and privation had been entirely removed. In this relief eighty thousand dollars was expended by the Red Cross, and in a few years the villages, formerly of wood, were rebuilt in brick.

CYCLONES AND TORNADOES

When a cyclone whirls across country, uprooting giant trees and sweeping buildings before it, it often leaves in its wake a pitiful group of men, women, and children who have been struck or crushed by falling timbers, or whose homes have been destroyed. For sufferers such as these, the nearest Red Cross Chapter immediately mobilizes its disaster relief service. Volunteers rescue the injured and bring them into Red Cross first aid stations and refugee camps. Food and clothing, if necessary, are given them, and here they live until the demolished houses have been raised or other provision made. The Red Cross aids in this rehabilitation and sometimes grants pensions to families whose wage-earners have

IN THE WAKE OF A CYCLONE



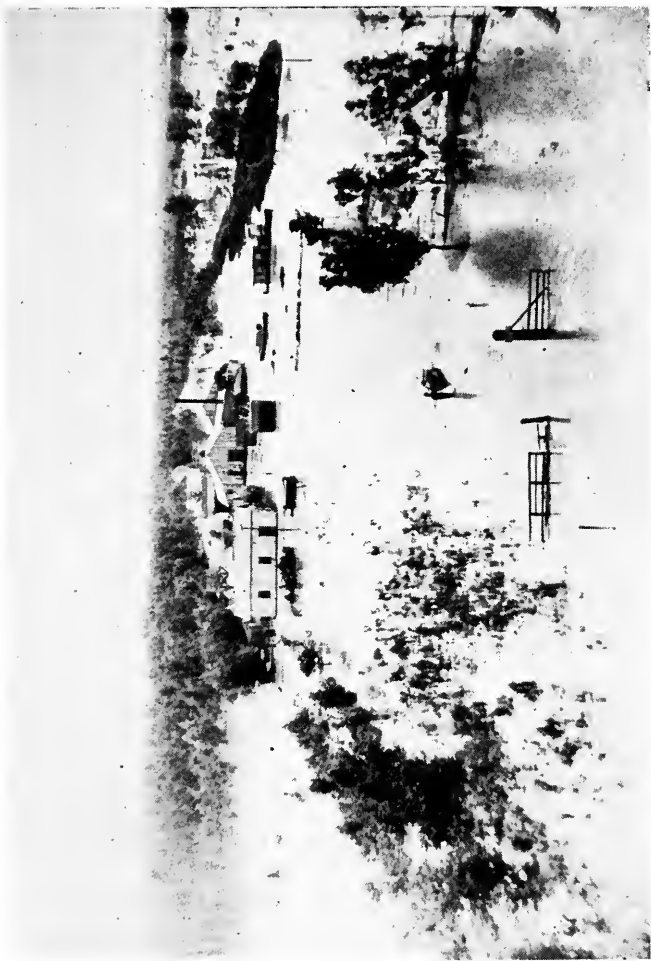
The American National Red Cross

been killed. Funds for such relief are available from contributions, Chapter treasuries, and National Red Cross Headquarters.

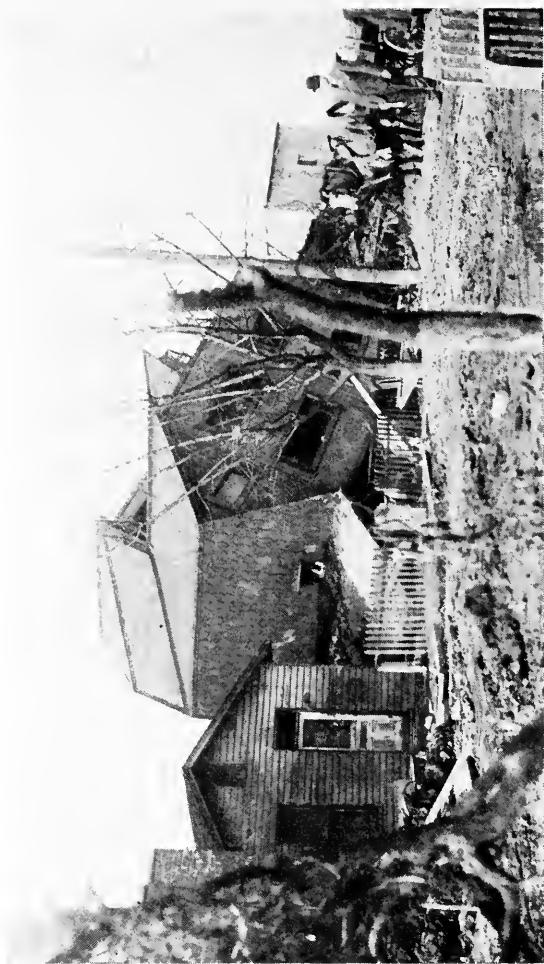
FLOODS

Relief in time of flood requires the same general measures as does relief in time of forest fire and cyclone. Unfortunately floods are the most frequent disasters which occur in the United States and yearly call for extensive Red Cross service. An example of this type occurred in March, 1913, when the Ohio River and its tributaries inundated the river towns and farms of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois, drowning 600 persons and rendering 320,000 others temporarily dependent.

In relief work following this flood the Red Cross expended \$2,472,287. This sum included the administration of the Ohio state appropriation of \$250,000, which was intrusted to the Red Cross and of which \$150,000 was returned to the state treasury as not needed, a refund which showed the economy of the Red Cross administration. Immediately following word of the disaster, experienced personnel from Headquarters, Chapter volunteers, and enrolled Red Cross nurses were sent to the flooded areas. Wearing rubber boots and with their drenched skirts held high, the nurses went picking their way serenely through the mud and wreckage, seeking out and sending sick to improvised hospitals



A FLOOD



AFTER THE WATERS RECEDE

Disaster Relief Duties

and inspecting the broken plumbing systems lest contagion spread. Other relief workers established refugee homes in schools and churches, and fed, clothed, and gave shelter to hundreds.

When the emergency stage of relief had passed, the Red Cross relief committees after careful investigation helped to restore flood-injured houses, made small grants of money and supplies to aid families in erecting new dwellings and places of business, pensioned widows and made provision for orphans. All major phases of rehabilitation had been completed within five months after the disaster.

CONFLAGRATIONS

Relief to victims of conflagrations involves the initiation of all the phases of Red Cross disaster relief which have been previously described. In the instance of the San Francisco fire on April 18, 1906, the Red Cross coöperated with a relief committee formed of citizens and with the state National Guard and Federal Army because the destruction had been so great. Four hundred and ninety-eight lives were lost and two hundred thousand persons made homeless. The city was put under military rule, and from the citizens' relief committees and the representatives of various welfare organizations and of the Red Cross was finally evolved the San Francisco Finance Committee of Relief and Red Cross Funds.

Although the American Red Cross had received

The American National Red Cross

its new Charter from Congress only two months previous to the San Francisco fire, the society received and expended \$3,087,469 in relief. It co-operated with the Finance Committee in the maintenance of refugees' camps and hospitals, sent its nurses into the devastated portions of the city to do sanitary inspection work, and aided in the erection of a permanent home for the aged and infirm. To further the rehabilitation of the city, the Red Cross made grants of money, not to exceed five hundred dollars each, to families, provided they themselves raised an equal sum and built a house with the total.

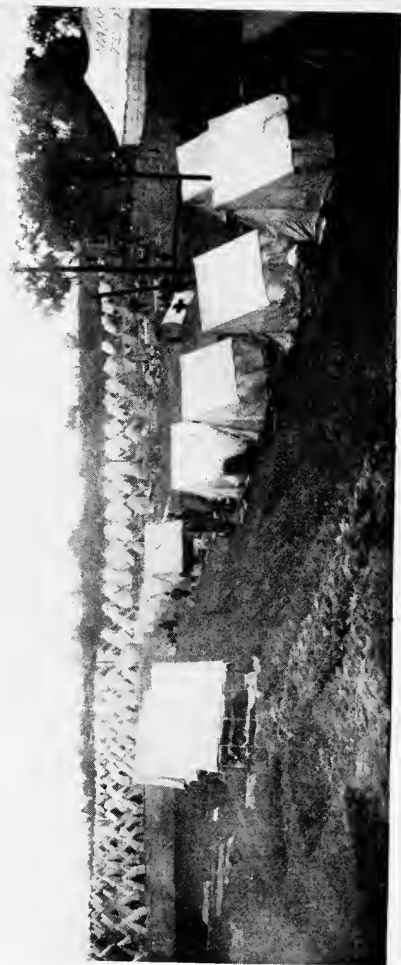
COAL-MINE DISASTERS

Of yearly industrial disasters, fires and explosions in coal-mines are the most frequent and costly in human life. A miner is usually the sole support of his wife and several children, and his death means that they are at once thrown into dire need. Relief to such victims is, therefore, of a highly complex type and, to be truly effective, must be continued over a period of years.

An example of a coal-mine disaster and of the nature of the relief given by the Red Cross may be seen in the burning of the St. Paul Mine in 1909 at Cherry, Illinois. The fire started on November 13 and spread from level to level. In the gas-filled and burning mine were imprisoned 256 men, half the male population of Cherry village, and they could



TELEGRAPH HILL, SAN FRANCISCO, FOLLOWING THE FIRE



A RED CROSS REFUGEE CAMP FOR DISASTER VICTIMS

Disaster Relief Duties

not be rescued in spite of Herculean efforts on the part of miners, mining experts, and chemists. On Thanksgiving day it was felt that the only way in which the fire could be smothered would be to lay solid concrete caps over both the shafts. This was done. Five months later the fire had subsided sufficiently to permit the removal of these caps and of the bodies of the victims.

When word of the Cherry disaster was first spread abroad through the press and during the winter months of 1909-10, the American people contributed \$316,424.15 for the relief of the miners' families. One hundred thousand dollars of this came through legislative appropriation by the State of Illinois, another ninety-eight thousand through the American Red Cross, and the other odd hundred thousand through twelve mining and welfare organizations. A central committee, the Cherry Relief Committee, was formed, which consisted of seven representatives of these groups, with Ernest P. Bicknell, then national director of the American Red Cross, as the chairman. Twenty-four hours after the outbreak of the fire this committee took charge of all relief operations and during the following months provided food, clothing, and medical care for the overwrought and impoverished families, buried the dead, and set into operation a system of pensions which were paid to widows with young children until these children reached an age to take wage-earning employment.

The American National Red Cross

PESTILENCE

When the modern American home with its many conveniences and its comparatively luxurious scale of living is taken into consideration, it would seem as if the causes of disease could be removed before infection becomes epidemic enough to require assistance from the Red Cross. Experience, however, shows that such is not always the case, for during the fiscal year of 1921-22 four local epidemics in small towns and communities caused a known loss of 245 lives in the United States and its insular possessions. The pandemic of influenza which swept the country in the autumn of 1918 was undoubtedly the most appalling disaster which had ever afflicted the American people, and it had a death-toll which exceeded by eighty thousand lives the death-toll of the American military forces in the European War.

The influenza pandemic came at a time when national resources and morale were under a heavy war strain. In addition, twenty-three thousand nurses and thirty-three thousand physicians had been withdrawn from civilian practice into military service and normal medical and nursing care could not be secured. Moreover, the confessed lack of medical knowledge concerning the nature of the disease fanned the flames of public alarm. Neither the military nor the civilian population seemed able to resist the infection and its complication, pneu-

Disaster Relief Duties

monia, and one hundred and ninety thousand persons died therefrom. The pandemic placed on the Red Cross a responsibility for rendering relief which was greater than that called for in any previous disaster. This relief took the form chiefly of emergency nursing and hospital service.

In Army training camps between September 14 and November 8, three hundred and seventy thousand men had the disease, and forty thousand of them succumbed. The Army had medical supplies in abundance but not a sufficient number of nurses: and so it turned to its reserve, the Red Cross Nursing Service, and the reserve supplied nurses and aides at a few hours' notice. How many civilians had the disease is not known, but the U. S. Public Health Service estimated that one hundred and fifty thousand of them died from influenza-pneumonia. All responsibility for aid was vested in the U. S. Public Health Service and the American Red Cross. The Public Health Service mobilized the physicians and established coöperation with the state, county, and municipal health officers while the Red Cross secured all nurses and hospital supplies and met these expenses. In every Division and Chapter a committee on influenza was appointed, and immediately began the establishment of emergency hospitals. Each service of the Chapter coöperated with the influenza committee; indeed, many nurses and physicians have declared that without such coöperation their efforts



A VOLCANIC ERUPTION

Disaster Relief Duties

would have been far less effective than they were. The Motor Corps transported nurses and patients, the Canteen Service organized diet kitchens and prepared food for those too sick to secure it in other ways, and women and girls who had taken the Red Cross courses in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick volunteered their services as aides to the overworked Red Cross nurses.

In many small towns and rural communities there existed no hospital or nursing facilities of any kind. Often a small Red Cross Branch would find itself the only organized welfare agency for miles around and as such would be able to render inestimably valuable service. It would take over village and cross-roads schoolhouses, turn them into emergency hospitals, and bring to them patients from the surrounding country in all types of improvised ambulances, even going on hand-cars into the timber-belt to bring out sick lumbermen.

During the first seven weeks of the pandemic, the Red Cross assigned to duty in its emergency civilian hospitals and in Army and Navy hospitals a nursing personnel of fifteen thousand women; these included enrolled Red Cross nurses, home defense nurses, pupil nurses, practical aides, and laywomen who had previously taken the Red Cross course in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick. The society expended \$2,074,609 in relief during this the worst pestilence which the United States has experienced.

The American National Red Cross

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RELIEF

In addition to its system of national disaster relief, the American Red Cross is authorized by its Charter to carry on international relief during disasters which strike fellow-nations. Space permits consideration herein of only such international relief during volcano, famine, and earthquake.

VOLCANOES

International relief to victims of volcanic eruptions has been given by the American Red Cross in three instances since 1905. The first of these was following the Vesuvian eruption in 1906; the second, after the eruption of Mount Taal on Luzón of the Philippine group in 1911; and the third, after a Japanese earthquake and volcanic disaster in 1914. A total of forty thousand dollars was expended by the society in relief during these three eruptions.

FAMINE

The menace of famine is not a danger to which much thought is given in the United States, possessed as is this nation of the virgin wealth of a new continent. Such a fortunate state of affairs, however, does not exist in some of the older nations of the world. In them famine may even become a yearly calamity which takes off thousands of the lower classes. To these unfortunates the American



GRAIN PURCHASED BY THE AMERICAN RED CROSS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO CHINESE
FAMINE SUFFERERS



BRINGING HOME THE RED CROSS PAY-CHECK

Disaster Relief Duties

people stretches out bountifully laden hands of compassion through the American Red Cross. In five famines since 1905 the society has expended \$2,079,148 in relief. Japan, Russia, and China have been the nations aided. As China was the greatest and most frequent sufferer, a brief account of the relief given there will serve as an example of this international phase of the society's duties.

Since the dawn of time China has suffered from flood and drought and their ghastly companion, famine. Weather conditions are such that extremes either of heavy rainfall or drought seem constantly to prevail. The basins of the two great rivers, the Yang-tse and the Hwang-Ho, or Yellow, are nearly on a level with the surrounding country. When the heavy rains descend, the rivers flood their basins and destroy the crops so that the coolies starve. When the drought sets in, the crops dry up and the coolies perish. In addition, Western civilization with its railroad, banking, and credit systems does not exist in China, so that one province suffering from famine is isolated and cannot borrow from another. Thus China has no reserves to save her unfortunate poorer classes from starvation.

In 1907 the American Red Cross first began its operations in Chinese famine relief in the Huai District, a region southwest of Peking and north of the Yang-tse River. Floods continued to destroy the crops, and so the society carried its relief work over

The American National Red Cross

a period of several years and expended therein the sum of \$579,402. More favorable conditions prevailed in 1911, and the Chinese famine relief was terminated.

Again in 1920, however, a need arose for extensive famine relief in the area north of the Huai District. In August it was learned that a heavy drought had destroyed all crops in the provinces of Chi-li, Shan-si, Ho-nan and Shan-tung and that unless outside assistance was given many thousands would perish. An economic need existed in these provinces for good roads which would tie them to Peking and civilization. In 1920 the American Red Cross appropriated a million dollars to be expended in famine relief, this relief to consist of employing the utterly destitute to build roads and of paying them in daily rations of food cereals. The American Red Cross was thus able to reach and benefit directly and indirectly 900,000 people. Some 160,000 laborers constructed 850 miles of highway, dug and lined 3650 wells, and planted 40,000 trees. Nearly fifteen thousand tons of grain were purchased in distant markets, transported to the scene of operations, and paid out in small quantities to the workmen and their families.

EARTHQUAKE

When tremors seize the earth and shake down cities and villages so that fire and pestilence sweep through the streets, when gigantic upheavals of the ocean



DESTRUCTION CAUSED BY MOUNT TAAL ERUPTION

The American National Red Cross

bed send adjacent waters rushing tumultuously up the shores in tidal waves, and when human lives are destroyed by the thousands, there is little which man can do save wait until the fury of nature subsides and then hasten to the relief of the sufferers and the rehabilitation of cities and communities. Following ten earthquakes which have occurred since 1905, the American Red Cross has expended a sum of \$1,268,148 in disaster relief and will during the autumn and winter of 1923-24 expend ten millions more. The severest of these cataclysms were at Valparaiso, Chile, in 1905; in southern Italy and Sicily in 1908; in Guatemala, Central America, in 1917; and in Japan in September, 1923. The Italian and Japanese disasters were the greatest earthquakes of modern times, and the relief given there by the American society is typical of the extent and varied service to which American Red Cross international disaster relief may be carried.

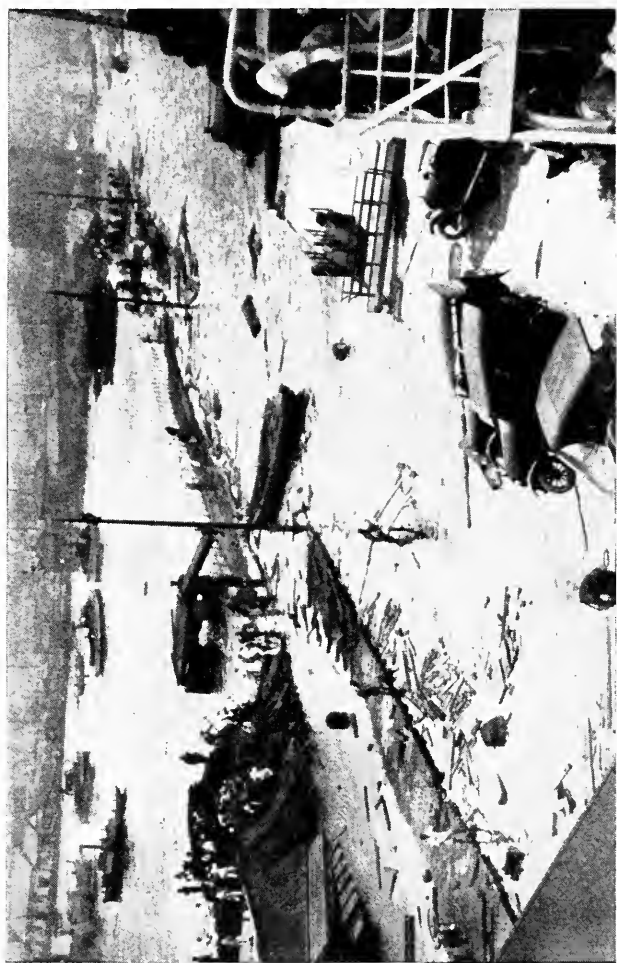
On December 28, 1908, earthquake seized the land and waters about the Straits of Messina. With their adjoining villages the picturesque cities of Reggio and Messina were shaken into ruins. Fifty cities, towns, and communities were destroyed, some two hundred thousand persons were killed, and over a million made homeless.

Through four avenues the American Red Cross expended \$985,300, which it received from the American people, in relief for victims of the Messina

Disaster Relief Duties

disaster. The society first made a gift of \$320,000 to the Italian Red Cross because that organization was already functioning efficiently on the scene and could better administer the American funds than could National Headquarters at Washington, D. C. Next, the American Red Cross chartered a ship, the *Bayern*, filled it with relief supplies, and sent it under the American and Red Cross flags up and down the Italian and Sicilian shores to distribute aid to the destitute in the small towns then overcrowded with refugees from the devastated regions.

The two other phases consisted of rehabilitation. The U. S. Congress had appropriated eight hundred thousand dollars for relief of the earthquake's victims, and five hundred thousand dollars of this sum was used to buy and transport to Italy material for building cottages; the other three hundred thousand dollars had been expended for emergency supplies which were sent to the ruined cities on two Navy vessels, the *Celtic* and the *Culgoa*. Two settlements, each consisting of over a thousand cottages, and each known as the American Village, were erected with the American building materials on plateaus above Messina and Reggio. The American Red Cross wished to have a share in this project, and so it supplied the timber and erected some two-hundred-odd houses in each village and used its relief funds to employ the Italian workmen engaged in construction and to transport to Italy American carpenters



Photo, International News Reel

YOKOHAMA'S WRECKED WATER-FRONT

Disaster Relief Duties

who supervised the erection of both the Red Cross and the U. S. Government houses. In addition, the society built one hundred cottages and a small model hospital in a second refugee city outside Messina, the Villagio Regina Elena. A final expression of American sympathy was made in a gift of 1,538,500 lire for the endowment of an orphanage. This institution was located at Palmi, near Reggio, and provided agricultural training for one hundred boys whose parents had been killed in the earthquake.

On September 1, 1923, a wireless station, the only one remaining in communication with the outside world, broadcasted a message that the populous cities of Tokio and Yokohama and their environs had been destroyed by earthquake, tidal wave, and fire. By an official count taken nearly a week after the cataclysm, 1,356,749 Japanese and foreign citizens had been killed, injured, or reported missing. Two millions more were rendered homeless, and the loss of property has not yet been estimated.

Two days after the catastrophe, President Coolidge called upon the American people to come to the aid of the sufferers in the friendly nation of Japan and designated the American Red Cross as the official channel through which should flow all American relief for Japanese sufferers. The four chief reasons for such designation are logical: first, because of the society's Charter regarding international disaster relief; second, because the Red

The American National Red Cross

Cross with its sound national organization and its country-inclusive local organization possessed the channels through which this relief might flow efficiently to Japan; third, because of its nearly fifty years' experience in emergency relief work of just this sort; and, fourth, because of the confidence in which the American people holds the Red Cross.

Following the President's proclamation, the sum of five million dollars was fixed by National Headquarters as a minimum amount toward which the society should work. Quotas were wired immediately to Division Headquarters and to Chapter Executive Committees, and the entire Red Cross organization sprang into action with the ease and confidence of those who possess both knowledge and experience of the task ahead. Within thirteen days the sum first designated was oversubscribed, and by September 24 ten million dollars had been given by the American people through the American Red Cross for relief of the stricken in our neighbor-nation across the Pacific.

Also by September 24 fourteen American ships, laden with tons of Red Cross supplies such as rice, milk, canned goods, clothing, blankets, medicines, disinfectants, lumber and steel for constructing temporary shelters, and similar articles, had been cleared from Western ports. The first two sailed within five days of the disaster. In addition, thirty-two thousand five hundred dollars was cabled to



Photo, Wide World Photos

JAPANESE REFUGEES

Seeking shelter from fire and smoke in a wrecked water-main at Numadzu, south of Yokohama

The American National Red Cross

representatives of the State Department to aid Americans in Japan; one hundred thousand dollars was sent to the Japanese Red Cross and one million dollars to the Japanese Imperial Emergency Relief Bureau. Every cent of the ten million dollars will be expended for Japanese relief, and all items of expense in connection with handling the Japanese funds will be met by the American Red Cross as part of its expenses in carrying on a system of national and international relief in time of peace.

Such, in brief, are the different ways in which the American Red Cross tries to mitigate the sufferings caused by pestilence, famine, fire, floods, and other great national calamities. As to its future activities in this field, American Red Cross disaster relief will be carried on vigorously by the society as long as the American people continue to make it their avatar. This support, it is hoped, will always be given, because no man can tell when he or his family or his neighbors at home or across the seas may be the victims of these natural or man-made calamities which yearly take their toll in human life.

CHAPTER VII

CONTINUING WAR RELIEF AND PREPAREDNESS DUTIES

. . . And to continue and carry on a system of national and international relief. . . .

Thus does the Charter of Incorporation define the second phase of the society's activities, a phase embracing the various continuing war relief and preparedness measures which the American Red Cross conducts to enable it to render efficient service in time of war and disaster.

These continuing war relief and preparedness measures consist in the maintenance of permanent operating groups at National Headquarters which are known as Services. Each Service embraces all American Red Cross activities in its field, and each has as its director a woman or man especially trained and experienced therein. Also, each Service has its representative in the Division offices and sometimes at Chapter headquarters. These are now known as the War, the Disaster Relief, the Nursing, the Public Health Nursing, the Nutrition, the Volunteer, and

The American National Red Cross

the Health Educational Services. Each will be briefly described in turn.

THE WAR SERVICE

The War Service is that group at National Headquarters and in Division offices through which is now rendered all Red Cross service to men in the Regular Army and Navy and to disabled ex-service men. From the formerly active but now discontinued Departments of Military and Civilian Relief through which all medical units, camp, canteen, and Home Service had been organized and maintained, War Service inherited such activities as the society now continues for able-bodied men in the military establishment and also developed distinctive continuing service for disabled veterans. To assist National Headquarters in both these phases of its work, two officers, one from the Army and the other from the Navy, are assigned to War Service to act in a *liaison* capacity between the Red Cross and the Army and Navy.

To able-bodied men in the Regular Army and Navy, the Red Cross at the request of the Secretaries of War and the Navy continues to give the same supplementary volunteer relief and Home Service which it gave during the European War and which has been previously described. For men sick in Army and Navy hospitals it continues its recreation and medical social service. These activities are

Continuing Peace Activities

in line with the Charter's authorization that the Red Cross shall act in matters of volunteer relief as a medium of communication between the American people and their Army and Navy.

In government hospitals in the United States are now twenty-four thousand disabled veterans of the European War and many more are under care outside of hospitals. Accordingly, American Red Cross activities in this field must be continued for a considerable period if the society expects to fulfil its Charter obligations to render volunteer assistance to the sick and wounded of armies in war.

All phases of Red Cross endeavor in behalf of the disabled ex-service man are carried on through War Service at National Headquarters and Division offices and in the field through the Chapter Home Service secretary or the Chapter executive secretary. This service falls into three principal types. The first consists in supplying to Division offices for transmittal to Chapters general technical advice and information regarding the national aspects of the care and rehabilitation of disabled veterans. The second type consists in rendering medical social service and recreational service to ex-service men in U. S. Veterans' Hospitals, District Offices, Marine Hospitals, National Soldiers' Homes, and certain private hospitals now under government contract. The third type consists in giving advice and assistance, chiefly through Chapters, to disabled veterans

The American National Red Cross

in the preparation of their claims against the Government, and in assisting them in their vocational training.

DISASTER RELIEF SERVICE

Disaster Relief Service is the group at National Headquarters and in Division offices through which the American Red Cross now administers disaster relief in time of need. Previous to the European War and in time of disaster Red Cross relief measures were conducted by local relief workers under the direction of the national director of the American Red Cross, who, if necessary, hurried to the scene and personally directed the work. This system was not entirely satisfactory because the national director could not be everywhere at once. Disasters often occur almost simultaneously.

Following the expansion of Red Cross service and organization since 1917, responsibility for giving relief in disasters occurring in the United States has been transferred to certain groups in Division offices and local Chapters. For international duty, the services of the Vice-Chairman in Charge of Foreign Operations are available. The Vice-Chairman in Charge of Domestic Operations directs disaster relief, and in disasters of magnitude his advice and aid to Division authorities are immediately available. In these major calamities the Executive Committee usually gives aid in the form of an appropria-

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tion from the General National Fund to assist local Chapters in their relief measures, and the Vice-Chairman is charged specifically with the duty of preparing such requests for the Executive Committee and with the expenditure of funds so appropriated.

In each Division the Division Manager acts as director of disaster relief. Because of the large number of disasters occurring in the Southwestern Division, an interesting experiment in disaster relief machinery has been developed. A mobile disaster relief unit is held in readiness at Southwestern Division Headquarters and, during the season of floods, tornadoes, storms, and fires, travels from one place to another rendering aid. This unit consists of the director of disaster relief, a social service supervisor trained in case work, an accountant, and a clerk. When this unit arrives in a disaster-stricken community, each of these workers serves as a leader in mobilizing volunteer aid in his field from among Chapter members. Other Divisions may from time to time send Division officials to serve with this mobile unit so that they may gain experience and skill in conducting similar relief measures in their own Divisions, should need arise.

Some Divisions maintain emergency storerooms filled with certain supplies which experience has shown may be needed in time of local emergency. These Division supplies are purchased through a

The American National Red Cross

single Supply Service at National Headquarters, so that all possible economy of Red Cross funds may be effected.

Usually the first agents to render aid in time of disaster are volunteers from the local Chapter nearest the scene. In order that these volunteers may be able to give this assistance swiftly and skilfully, National Headquarters has authorized Chapters to organize Disaster Relief Preparedness Committees which assign to their own subcommittees certain definite duties to be performed by them in time of emergency. Also, these Disaster Preparedness Committees keep up-to-date lists of the names and addresses of local relief agencies and persons on whom they may call in time of need, such as physicians, hospitals, Red Cross nurses, charity associations, and the like. Many Chapters have emergency storerooms containing supplies produced or purchased by the Chapters and in readiness for immediate use.

THE NURSING SERVICE

The need for expert nursing service in rendering aid to the sick and wounded of armies in war has already been set forth in a preceding chapter. This need is met by the way in which the American Red Cross Nursing Service acts as a reserve for the Army and Navy. To understand fully this relationship, the reader must recall the group of women

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in the Sanitary Corps during the Civil War. Their war service over, they returned to their homes, flung themselves into hospital reform, and founded the modern American nursing profession. During the War with Spain the first trained American nurses demonstrated the value of skilled women nurses in the theater of war and in 1900 brought forward a bill which authorized the creation of the Army Nurse Corps, to consist of a superintendent and of chief, staff, and reserve nurses who should all be graduate women nurses in the modern professional sense. This was then an unprecedented departure from permanent Army organization, but the bill was finally incorporated in the Army Reorganization Act and in 1901 became law.

The next step in building up an efficient Army nursing service was to secure an adequate reserve. At Miss Boardman's urging, the American Red Cross in 1909 asked the American Nurses' Association to affiliate with the society and organize, under a national committee composed of the Surgeons-General of the Government's medical services, the superintendents of their respective Nurse Corps, leading nurses, and Red Cross members, a Red Cross Nursing Service which would be the reserve of the Army and Navy Nurse Corps and the source of supply, also, for all American Red Cross nursing activities. The American Nurses' Association accepted the affiliation, and Jane Delano became the



Photo, Harris & Ewing

JANE DELANO

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first chairman of the National Committee on Red Cross Nursing Service.

Herself a nurse, Miss Delano was in verity an American Florence Nightingale. For ten years, without financial remuneration, she gave her time and brilliant powers to urge nurses to enroll in the Red Cross and to build up a national, state, and local committee system which would carry on the detail of this enrolment. The ablest nurses in all parts of the country agreed to serve on these field committees and to enroll all the nurses whom they knew who met the Red Cross professional requirements. Through their efforts and through the intrinsic beauty of the Red Cross ideal, the splendid vision became an actuality, and the European War found the Nursing Service with eight thousand nurses pledged and ready for patriotic and altruistic service wherever needed. The Nursing Service subsequently enrolled and assigned nineteen thousand nurses to the military establishment, as has been said before; but Miss Delano's arduous war service had exhausted her, and she died in 1919 in France in the line of her chosen duty.

The professional requirements for enrolment in the American Red Cross Nursing Service are that an applicant shall be between the ages of twenty-one and forty-five years, a citizen of the United States and unmarried, a member of an organization affiliated with the American Nurses' Association, a



AN AMERICAN RED CROSS NURSES' PARADE

Continuing Peace Activities

registered nurse, and a graduate of an accredited school of nursing connected with a general hospital having a daily average of not less than fifty patients.

The Nursing Service now has an enrolment of forty thousand such nurses and a committee system for such enrolment which consists at present of 155 Local Committees, forty-eight State Committees, and five Insular Possession Committees, all heading up to the National Committee previously mentioned. With this committee system and its enrolment, the Nursing Service constitutes a preparedness measure for both military and disaster relief which is unique among national Red Cross or other welfare societies in the world.

In addition to the maintenance of this reserve, the Nursing Service gives advice and assistance to foreign nations desiring it regarding the development of modern schools of nursing and to national Red Cross societies in the development of professional Red Cross nursing services. To its now grown daughter, the Red Cross Public Health Nursing Service, which will be described in the next chapter, the Nursing Service extends support and advice through the National Committee and enrolls in the Red Cross Reserve all Red Cross public health nurses. Lastly and in order that the beneficent methods, both remedial and preventive, of professional nursing care of the sick and well may be accessible in simple form to women and girls, the Nursing Service conducts class instruction in

The American National Red Cross

HOME HYGIENE AND CARE OF THE SICK

Red Cross class instruction in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick has two distinct aims. The first of these lies in the remedial field and consists in trying to teach the elementary principles of nursing, personal hygiene, and household sanitation to all types of women and girls, so that in time of war and pestilence when a shortage of professional nursing service is inevitable, and also in the routine minor illnesses which occur in every family, the wife, mother, or sister will be able to care for the sick in her home. The second aim of the course lies in the preventive field of health education and consists in teaching women and girls to assist in checking infant and child mortality by the intelligent care of babies and children and to further adult health and efficiency by the prevention of avoidable diseases and the control of communicable diseases. All phases of this instruction are based on a text-book, "Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick," which was written in 1913 by Miss Delano and Isabel McIsaacs and extensively revised in 1918 by Miss Anne Strong. This text-book has since been translated *in toto* into the Czecho-Slovakian and Polish languages and in part into the Japanese, Russian, and Korean languages.

Classes in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick may be formed by individuals, schools, clubs, Chap-

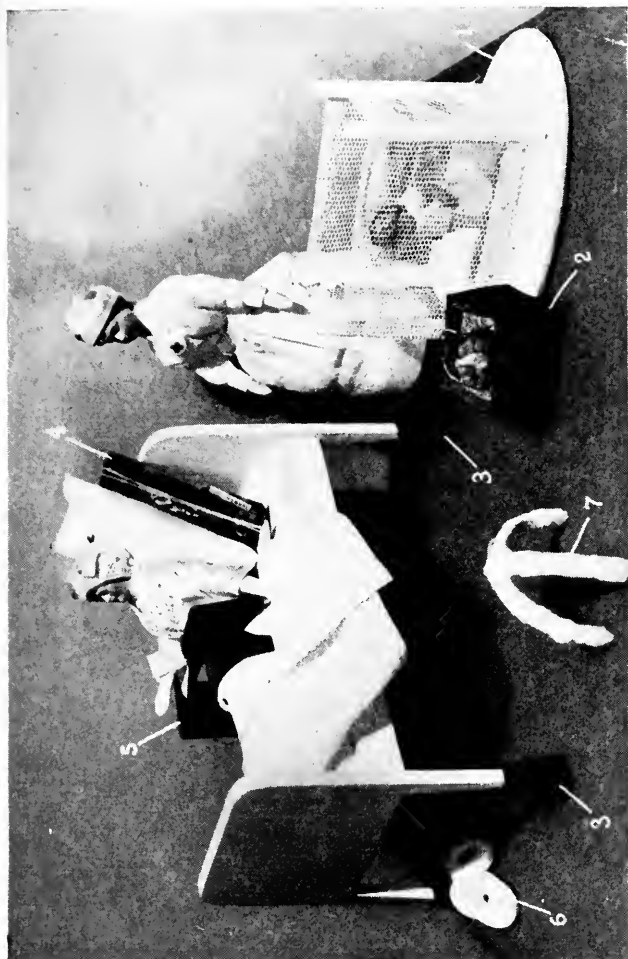


DEMONSTRATING THE PROPER CARE OF A BABY
To a class in home hygiene and care of the sick

The American National Red Cross

ters, and other organizations. They are conducted so that an authorized Red Cross nurse-instructor gives demonstrations interwoven with theory, and the students then practise what the nurse-instructor has shown them. This instruction covers a period of not less than twenty-four hours and terminates in practical and written tests. There is now one standard course, with an adaptation and a modification. To women and girls who possess at least the educational attainments of the average high-school student is offered the standard course. The adaptation of the standard course has been prepared so that teachers of physiology, biology, home economics, and physical training may instruct classes in the theory of the course, thus conserving the time of the Red Cross nurse-instructor for the practical demonstrations of simple nursing procedure. To women who know very little English, to others who find it difficult to pass the written test, and to girls below high-school age such as grade pupils and Camp-Fire Girls, is offered the modification of the standard course.

When this specialization in teaching methods and the intrinsic worth of the subject-matter is considered, it may readily be appreciated that class instruction in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick would be eagerly accepted by women and girls throughout the United States and her insular and foreign possessions. Since 1914, 304,427 students



CONVENIENT HOME-MADE APPLIANCES FOR THE SICK-ROOM

1. A kiddie coop
2. Home-made ice-box
3. Bed blocks to raise bed to proper height for nurse
4. Back-rest from suit-case
5. Bed-table
6. Circular pads for relieving pressure
7. Cradle to relieve pressure of bedclothes

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have received certificates for having satisfactorily completed the course.

HOME HYGIENE AND CARE OF THE SICK IN THE SCHOOLS

Many more American girls marry than take up business or professional careers, yet it has been only within recent years that systematic instruction in home-making has been given to girls. Now, however, domestic science courses are available in almost all well organized public and private schools. In line with this instruction and because it is also a vital phase of domestic education, the American Red Cross has introduced its course in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick into public and private schools in several cities in this country.

An example presents itself in New York City. On February 1, 1919, the course was introduced into several girls' high schools and was made compulsory for all students in their third or fourth year of attendance. To each of these schools a Red Cross nurse-instructor was assigned and was accepted as a member of the school faculty. Academic credit was given the student for satisfactorily completing the course. For three years the Red Cross conducted this instruction, paying the salaries of the nurses, and on May 12, 1923, the New York School Board agreed to take over this service for permanent maintenance and development.

Continuing Peace Activities

HOME HYGIENE AND CARE OF THE SICK IN TELEPHONE COMPANIES

Following the successful reception of Red Cross First Aid Instruction by its men employees, the New York Telephone Company wished to offer some form of popular health instruction to its women employees. In March, 1923, an arrangement was made between the Company and the American Red Cross whereby the course in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick is now offered to all women employees of the New York Telephone Company who desire to take it. A joint certificate is issued to those who satisfactorily complete the course. Because of the national organization of the Bell Telephone System, of which the New York Telephone Company is a member, it is probable that a similar arrangement will be adopted by other telephone companies of the Bell System in many other cities.

HOME HYGIENE AND CARE OF THE SICK FOR GIRL SCOUTS

One of the strongest women's organizations in the United States is the Girl Scouts, a movement which has among its aims Health Preparedness for the growing womanhood of the nation. With the Girl Scouts Organization, the American Red Cross has entered into a joint arrangement whereby Girl Scouts may take the course in Home Hygiene and

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Care of the Sick. If they satisfactorily complete this instruction, they are eligible without further examination, provided that they have fulfilled certain Scout requirements, to the Merit Badges, as contemplated under the Scout system of awards, as "Health Winner," "Home Nursing," "Child Nursing," and "First Aide."

THE NUTRITION SERVICE

The Nutrition Service had its inception in war needs but with a return to peace has developed extensive preparedness and preventive activities. Only the preparedness phases of the nutrition program will, however, be discussed in this section. When the society undertook the organization of the base hospital units, it was found that the personnel of each unit must include a trained dietitian. A National Committee on Red Cross Dietitians' Service, which was composed of women prominent in the field of home economics, was accordingly authorized early in 1917, and it set up standards for Red Cross enrolment, passed on the qualifications of applicants, and secured women trained in home economics to serve as dietitians in the Army and Navy and with the American Red Cross commissions overseas. Following a return to peace the scope of the Dietitians' Service was enlarged and the name changed. The Nutrition Service, as it is now called, continues the enrolment duties of the former Dietitians' Bureau

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and has at present 2589 women trained in home economics enrolled in its files as a permanent Dietitians' Reserve for the Army, the Navy, the U. S. Public Health Service, the Veterans' Bureau, and the American Red Cross. Like its elder sister, the Nursing Reserve, the maintenance of the Dietitians' Reserve constitutes a vital preparedness measure of the society.

ORGANIZED VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Except for a limited trained personnel necessary for certain professional services, the American Red Cross consists of volunteers. As has been shown before, no government can provide more than the essentials in the care of the sick and wounded in any great war. All supplementary phases of this care must be given by volunteers. These volunteers constitute the rank and file of the American Red Cross, and during the European War these volunteers, mostly women, gave the vast amount of Red Cross non-professional service which has been previously described. This service then fell and still falls naturally into eight general groups: Administration, Clerical (including library work), Production, Canteen, Motor Corps, Health Aides (formerly nurses' aides), Home Service, and Hostess and Recreation Hut Service. These same classifications of war relief service hold also for disaster relief service.



READY FOR ANY PRODUCTION CALL

Transcribing
braille

A member of the
clerical corps

Making surgical
dressings

Making
garments

Knitting

Continuing Peace Activities

In addition to rendering volunteer aid to the sick and wounded in war, however, Congress created the American Red Cross for two other purposes: to continue and carry on a system of national and international relief and to apply the same in mitigating the sufferings caused by great calamities; and to devise and carry on measures for preventing these calamities. These preparedness and preventive measures must be so chosen that in addition to alleviating specific suffering they will also afford Red Cross volunteers an opportunity for training, so that future emergencies may find them prepared to render efficient aid. Thus a fundamental purpose of the Red Cross is to prepare and train its volunteers to render various necessary forms of relief whenever called upon, in war, disaster, or local emergency. This system of training volunteers and at the same time utilizing their services is now known as Red Cross Organized Volunteer Service.

Organized Volunteer Service consists, in part, of requiring women to render each year a short period of service for the Red Cross Chapter to which they belong. This short period, as contrasted with a continuing all-year service, does not require women to neglect other important duties and does not result in the production of surplus effort and supplies such as are not usable under normal conditions, but it does give to a large number of women the service training which they need. In addition, this system

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possesses a striking administrative advantage, both in the Chapter and at National Headquarters. Every Chapter which utilizes this system may thus keep a full record of the women in its community who have been trained and are efficient in various types of service and may call on them at need. As to the national advantages, Division offices report to National Headquarters the numbers and strength of their Chapter volunteers and the national officers take this information as a guide in determining the exact quotas of service and supplies which will be required of each Division and its Chapters. This results in a more economical and efficient organization both in the Chapters and at Headquarters.

For enrolment in Volunteer Service, a woman must be a member of the American Red Cross and must agree to give annually one-half day (three consecutive hours) a week for six weeks (preferably six consecutive weeks) to some one of the eight branches of Volunteer Service. In Production she must give in piecework the equivalent of this eighteen hours' service. Women in business may give one evening (of two consecutive hours) a week for six weeks, making a total of twelve hours. Chapters are permitted to make special arrangements for exceptional cases.

A member of Volunteer Service enrolls only in one branch of service. She is at liberty to give additional service to any other branch, but she cannot

Continuing Peace Activities

generally count the time thus spent towards her regular service. In addition to the regular service, it is the duty of members of all eight branches of Volunteer Service to assist in the annual American Red Cross Roll-Call.

Each Chapter keeps a card catalogue, or other adequate record, of its members who are enrolled in Volunteer Service. This catalogue provides for the registration of the member's name; address and telephone number (both residence and office, if necessary); her branch of service and the type therein which she can best render; and other vital facts. On this card is also kept the record of time which she has given. If at the end of the year a member has failed to give the required amount of time to her chosen branch of service, her pin is recalled, and her enrolment canceled. A member is permitted to reënroll provided adequate reasons for non-fulfilment of her agreement are given, such as prolonged illness or absence. After four years' active service, a member if she desires may retain her pin and be registered in the Volunteer Service's reserve forces, to be called out in case of emergency but not to be expected to give twelve or eighteen hours' annual service.

Each branch of Volunteer Service has its special pin. These pins, the use of which is optional, may be purchased through the Chapter after a member has been duly enrolled. They cost one dollar each.

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On the back of the pin is a serial number, of which there is no duplicate, and a service letter. The Administrative Corps has a red border, no insignia, and the letter A. The Clerical Corps has a yellow border, crossed quill pens for insignia, and the letter B. The Production Corps has a dark blue border, a sun for insignia, and the letter P. The Canteen Service has a light blue border, heads of wheat for insignia, and the letter C. The Motor Corps has a green border, a wheel for insignia, and the letter M. The Health Aides have a white Maltese Cross for insignia and the letter H. The Hostess and Recreation Service has a green border, HR for insignia, and the letter R.

Women who do not care to give the maximum of eighteen or twelve hours to Chapter work but who desire to give occasional service are always cordially welcomed to do so. In case of emergency, the Chapter, however, must necessarily rely mainly on its enrolled members because their organization and training make them more dependable and experienced.

The various duties devolving on the eight branches of Volunteer Service are, in brief, as follows:

ADMINISTRATION CORPS

The administration of Chapters is carried on almost entirely by volunteers who serve as officers and members of the Executive and other commit-



RED CROSS ROMPERS AND DRESSES MADE FROM MEN'S WORN SHIRTS

The American National Red Cross

tees. In some of the larger Chapters the work of which requires a trained person, an executive secretary, assistant secretary, or assistant treasurer is employed.

CLERICAL CORPS

This Corps renders general office aid in stenography, typing, filing, card cataloguing, simple bookkeeping, record keeping, and similar assistance. Part of the duty of members of this Corps is to devote a portion of the service time to familiarizing themselves with the origin, purposes, and service of the Red Cross. For this reason young women are encouraged to enter this branch of service so that they may be trained to fill intelligently the places of their elders in the administration service as these retire.

PRODUCTION CORPS

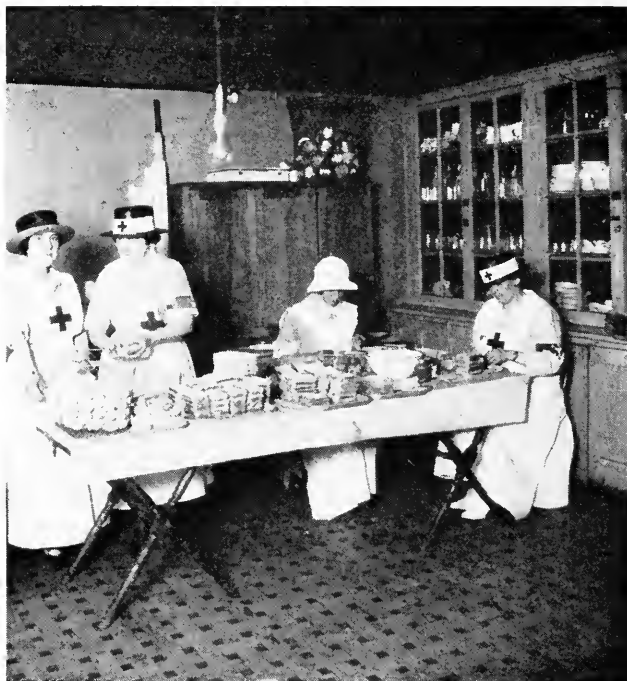
In this Service by far the greatest number of volunteers are enrolled. Garments, including knitted articles, are made for military hospitals, for disaster refugees, and for local and other needs. The utilization of warm clothing and other discarded material for remaking into garments, especially for children, is part of the work of this Service. So that credit for the required number of hours of service may be obtained by those who work at home, a table is used which shows the amount of time allowed for each article produced.



A BLINDED SOLDIER READING BRAILLE

The American National Red Cross

The Surgical Dressings section devotes its time to making dressings for its emergency closets, local



MEMBERS OF A CANTEEN CORPS PREPARING FOR ACTIVE DUTY

hospitals and similar institutions. Gauze for dressings intended for hospital use is generally provided by these hospitals. In case of a sudden Red Cross

Continuing Peace Activities

call for clothing or hospital supplies, the Production Corps can immediately mobilize thousands of women who are ready to respond with trained skilled service.

Braille transcription for blinded soldiers and for others without sight is another section of the Production Corps Service. In some Chapters, however, Braille transcription is done by the Clerical Corps.

CANTEEN CORPS

Where there are military or veterans' hospitals in the vicinity, Canteen Service is carried on for sick soldiers or disabled ex-service men. In some instances near Army posts or Navy stations a Canteen Corps has assisted in supervising a club for the men. The preparation and serving of hot lunches for school-children is another service by which certain groups maintain active duty.

A later development of the Canteen Service is to put up preserves for the use of military, veterans', or local hospitals. Special Red Cross labels are utilized for these preserves. By such means the Corps continues its work and at the same time keeps itself prepared for immediate canteen duty in case of need.

MOTOR CORPS

This Corps renders service for regular Chapter activities such as the collection of materials and the transportation of supplies, workers, and disabled ex-service men. It carries children and other



THE CANTEEN CORPS AT WORK DURING A SHIPWRECK

Continuing Peace Activities

patients to hospitals, doctors' offices, and clinics and transports instructors and equipment for Red Cross class instruction. It also provides pleasure rides for convalescents and chronic invalids. Through such service it maintains its personnel ready to respond promptly to any call for active relief operations.

HEALTH AIDE CORPS

Members of this Corps are required to take the course in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick, and they function under the general direction and with the approval of their Division Director of Nursing Service, from whom information must be obtained before this branch may be organized in a Chapter. The duties of the Corps are rendered in connection with various health and similar organizations which have been duly approved by the Committee on Nursing Activities or the Executive Committee of the Chapter.

HOME SERVICE

The volunteers of this group serve in the interests of disabled ex-service men. They work either under the supervision of the professional Home Service personnel in the Chapter or in its absence carry on this service themselves. When need for their services in connection with disabled veterans no longer exists, volunteers may receive further training in

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social service by assisting local welfare organizations. The efforts of volunteers efficiently trained in social service are of great value in rehabilitation work following disasters of magnitude.

HOSTESS AND RECREATION CORPS

Where Red Cross convalescent houses for military or veterans' hospitals are maintained, the service of these volunteers is utilized to provide recreation and entertainment. Members act also as hostesses and ward visitors. In small Chapters where rest-rooms or community centers have been established, such hostesses are of valuable assistance. In case of great disasters which cause the maintenance of large refugee camps, this Corps provides recreation facilities for children and young people.

THE HEALTH SERVICE

The most recently developed Red Cross activity, and perhaps the most important in its potential phases of disaster preparedness and prevention, is the Health Service, under which general name are grouped Red Cross activities such as: First Aid, Life-Saving, the nutrition program, and similar endeavor in the field of popular health education and betterment. Red Cross instruction in First Aid and Life-Saving is, however, essentially a preparedness as well as a preventive measure, and so it will be discussed herewith.



THE MOTOR CORPS ON DUTY



FIRST AID ON THE FARM

Continuing Peace Activities

RED CROSS FIRST AID INSTRUCTION

Often the factor which determines whether or not a severely injured person will live or die is the quality of the emergency assistance which he receives from bystanders before the doctor arrives. In order that this emergency assistance may be given immediately and expertly by those who happen to witness the accident, the American Red Cross offers to men, women, and children systematic instruction in the treatment of poisoning, sunstroke, fainting, bruises, sprains and fractures, burns, shock, the arrest of hemorrhage and proper covering of wounds, artificial respiration and the proper transportation of the severely wounded. This instruction is now known as Red Cross First Aid instruction.

The first effort leading to systematic First Aid instruction in the United States began in 1899 in the mining village of Jermyn, Pennsylvania. A group of miners there who had previously received some training in England from the St. John's Ambulance Association, formed a first aid club under a local physician, Major M. J. Shields. The idea soon found favor throughout the anthracite mining regions and classes were developed which in time had rival contests among themselves. In 1908 a member of the Red Cross Executive Committee witnessed one of these contests and immediately began to urge that the teaching of first aid instruction be made a

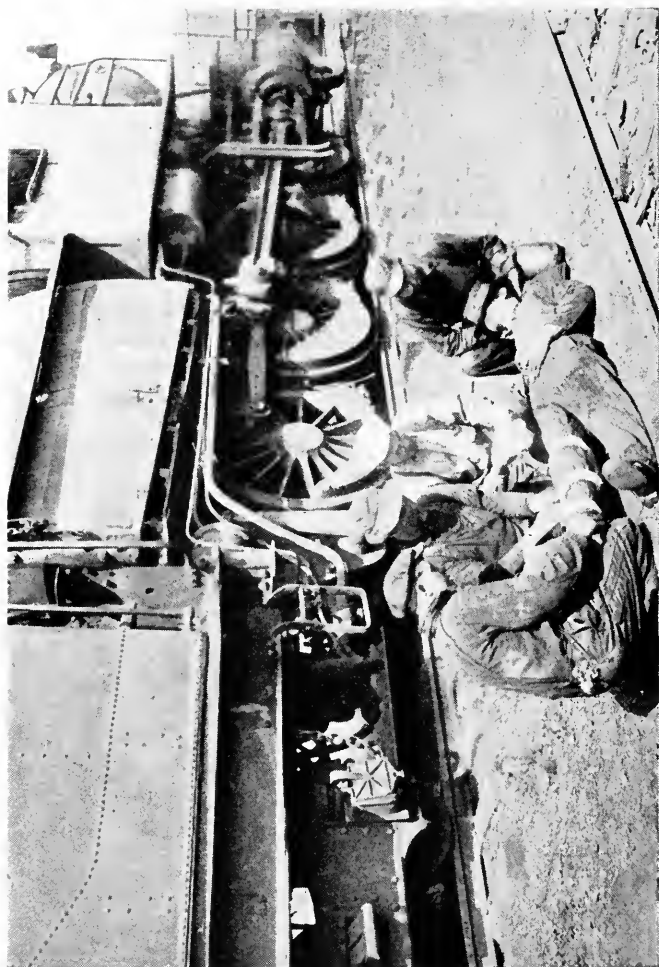
The American National Red Cross

peace-time activity of the American Red Cross. The Central Committee adopted the suggestion and organized in 1909 the Red Cross First Aid Bureau. Colonel Charles Lynch was detailed from the office of the Surgeon-General, U. S. Army, to National Headquarters to develop the project, and in 1910 he wrote the text-book "Red Cross First Aid," which has since become the basis of all effort in this field. From these early beginnings the course has been developed in scope and popularity until now one hundred and seventy-five thousand persons in the United States have taken it.

The Red Cross First Aid course consists of ten lessons covering a minimum of fifteen hours. These lessons are conducted by local physicians and by special field representatives who are physicians possessing special aptitude and training as instructors in Red Cross First Aid. Highly practical applications of the general theories have been prepared to meet different types of dangers. The text-book is now available, in an industrial, a miners', a railroad, a woman's, and a general edition. Some of these editions have been translated into many languages for the benefit of the foreign-born in the United States. In addition to the specialized phases of instruction which are conducted by several groups and by the Red Cross, the general instruction is widely given through classes conducted by other welfare organizations such as the Young Men's Christian Association and the Boy and Girl Scouts of America.



DEMONSTRATING FIRST AID METHODS TO A GROUP OF RAILROAD EMPLOYEES



FIRST AID FOLLOWING A RAILROAD ACCIDENT

Continuing Peace Activities

FIRST AID IN MINES

Some years ago the Red Cross conducted extensive class instruction in First Aid among miners throughout the United States and issued its First Aid textbook in a special miners' edition. This instruction soon proved so valuable that it led to coöperation between the U. S. Bureau of Mines and the American Red Cross and resulted in the publication by the Department of the Interior of a new "Manual of First Aid Instruction for Miners," which is a revision of the Red Cross miners' edition and the textbook previously published by the Bureau of Mines, "Advanced First Aid Instruction for Miners." This "Manual" was prepared jointly by the Bureau of Mines and the Red Cross, with the agreement that both organizations should publish editions with identical text and that this new "Manual" would bear the indorsement of the U. S. Public Health Service and the National Safety Council, thus making it the standard manual for first aid instruction to miners and the official guide for first aid contests held by any of the organizations above named. Until the first edition is exhausted, the Government Printing Office issues this "Manual" free of charge; after that, it may be purchased at cost.

RAILROAD FIRST AID

Red Cross instruction in first aid on railroads is offered by means of a completely equipped Red Cross

The American National Red Cross

First Aid car, which is carried without transportation charges over the railroad systems. This car is equipped with a class-room and demonstration apparatus and has living-quarters for the two doctors who form its staff. When this car is pulled into a yard or roundhouse, the doctors call the railroad men into the class-room and give them a preliminary talk on the value of expert first aid in time of a railroad accident. As each man can readily imagine himself or a friend caught between or under the wheels of a locomotive or car, they usually listen with marked interest and, when the Red Cross doctor proposes further instruction, are willing enough to attend classes. Through them their families and other railroad men are interested and additional classes formed. The car remains at a scheduled point for as long as is necessary, is then coupled on behind an engine, and moves along to the next point on its itinerary.

INDUSTRIAL FIRST AID

First aid instruction to industrial groups is usually taught by means of classes which may be initiated at Red Cross expense in factories and commercial companies as a demonstration of their value and later taken over by the corporations as one of their routine protective measures for their employees. Such was the case with telephone and telegraph companies throughout the United States, where the constant



RESCUING A FELLOW-WORKMAN IN CONTACT WITH A HIGH-VOLTAGE WIRE

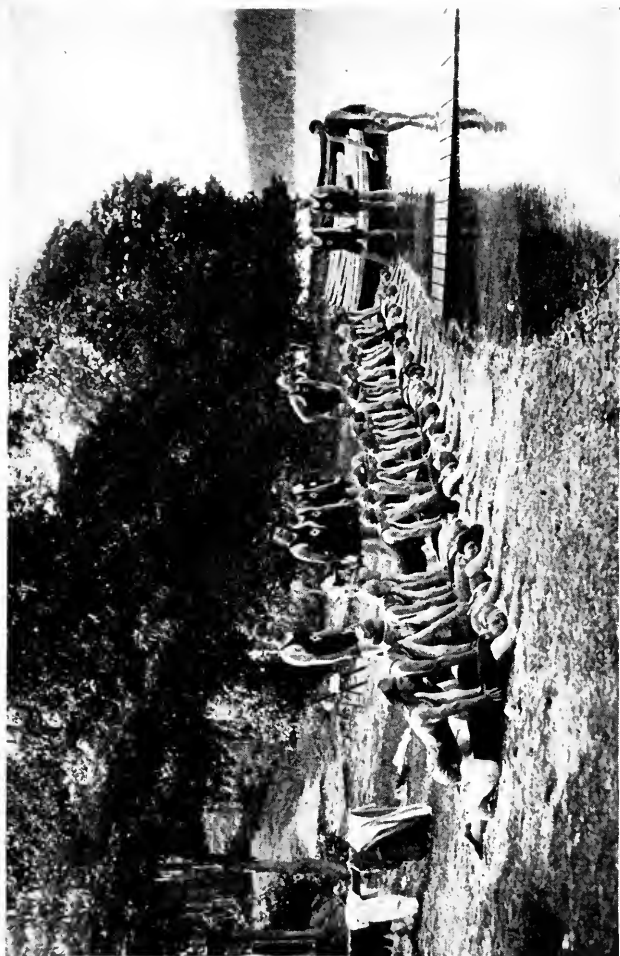
The American National Red Cross

handling of high-voltage wiring brings about a special need for expert knowledge of the ways in which contact may be broken and arrested respiration may be artificially induced.

AMERICAN RED CROSS LIFE-SAVING CORPS

American Red Cross instruction in "water first aid" is known as Red Cross Life-Saving. Those who have taken this instruction and successfully passed certain tests are called Red Cross Life-Savers. There are now 29,274 of these, 10,643 of whom are men, 6,875 women, and 11,756 boys and girls from the ranks of the American Junior Red Cross.

Out of the request of two national associations has been developed the present extensive efforts which the Red Cross carries on in Life-Saving. In 1911 Colonel Lynch, author of the text-book, "First Aid to the Injured," was asked by the Boy Scouts of America to collaborate with Commodore Wilbert E. Longfellow, then director of the Life-Saving Department of the City of New York, in the chapter on first aid on land and water for the Boy Scout handbook. Following this collaboration, Colonel Lynch was much impressed by the possibilities for Red Cross development of an educational program in "water first aid," and some months later the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Boy Scouts of America asked the Red Cross to give national leadership to this phase of aquatics



SWIMMING INSTRUCTORS RECEIVING TRAINING IN RESUSCITATION
At the National Red Cross Life-Saving Institute, Long Pond, Massachusetts

The American National Red Cross

for the promotion of water safety. On February 1, 1914, the present American Red Cross Life-Saving Corps was organized.

Every able-bodied and healthy man, woman, and child may be regarded as a potential swimmer, and every swimmer as a potential life-saver. Hence the American Red Cross Life-Saving Corps has two aims. The first lies in the field of education and the second in the field of actual rescue and resuscitation. Its educational aims are to develop public sentiment and facilities for safeguarding human life from drowning; to teach precautionary and preventive measures to avoid accidents in the water; to prevent drowning by encouraging the teaching of swimming; to teach swimmers how to approach a drowning man, how to break his holds, prevent his struggling, and keep him afloat while towing him to shore; and how through artificial respiration to induce natural breathing again. In addition, the Life-Saving Corps aims to teach its prospective members First Aid to the Injured.

The second major aim of the Life-Saving Service is to constitute through its local Corps permanent and expert agencies in waterfront communities for saving human life from drowning. After a swimmer has learned the essentials of water first aid, he or she takes a rigorous examination in Life-Saving. If this is successfully passed, the former student becomes a member of the Red Cross Life-Saving



ON GUARD!

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Corps in his own community and pledges himself or herself to assist in reducing the yearly loss of life through drowning. Each of these local Life-Saving Corps is chartered by Division Headquarters and may be a Men's Corps, consisting of boys and men of seventeen years and up, or of a Women's Corps, consisting of girls and women of seventeen years and up. Each chartered Corps has its standard equipment such as the regulation eighteen-foot dory, oars, first aid equipment, ring-buoys, lines, blankets, stretchers, and the like.

American Red Cross Life-Saving instruction and tests have now been adopted as the standard for instruction by the War Department for the West Point Military Academy and for all Reserve Officers' and Citizens' Training Camps; by the Navy Department for the Naval Academy at Annapolis and for two special Navy Training Camps; by the Physical Directors' Association of the Young Men's Christian Association; by Young Women's Christian Associations which maintain swimming-pools; by the Boy Scouts of America; by the Girl Scouts of America; and by the Camp-Fire Girls.

FIRST AID AND LIFE-SAVING CONTESTS AND PRIZES

To stimulate interest in Red Cross First Aid and Life-Saving activities, local Chapters hold contests or send representatives to other first aid contests and exhibitions. Every year National Headquarters

Continuing Peace Activities

gives four money prizes and honorable mention to the most heroic rescues each in First Aid and in Life-Saving which have been made during that period. A recent winner of the first prize in First Aid was Vernon Enos, who rescued from a ladder a fellow-electrician who was in contact with sixty-six hundred volts of electricity. An example of the type of heroism which wins the Life-Saving first prize was the conduct of Mary Buhner. When swimming in Florida waters with Miss Buhner, a girl companion was severely wounded by a giant barracuda. Though she did not know when the fish might attack her also, Miss Buhner swam in heavy seas to her friend's assistance, and held her above water until aid arrived. Unfortunately, however, the wound was so serious that the friend could not survive it.

RED CROSS FIRST AID AND LIFE-SAVING SUPPLIES

In order that the supplies which are necessary for efficient First Aid assistance may be easily accessible, the American Red Cross, through the national supply service previously mentioned, packs and sells at cost the following types and sizes of First Aid boxes: Industrial; General (large and small); Household (large and small); School; Automobile; Pocket Emergency Kit; and First Aid Pouch. In connection with its Life-Saving activities, the society offers for sale at cost a special Red Cross Life-Saving Box and a Red Cross Life-Buoy.

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Such, in brief, are the preparedness measures which the American Red Cross conducts in time of peace through its War and Disaster Relief Services, its Nurses' and Dietitians' Reserves, its Volunteer Service, its Life-Saving Corps, and its class instruction in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick, First Aid, and Life-Saving, all of which activities are direct interpretations of the Charter's preparedness clause: "to continue and carry on a system of national and international relief in time of peace."

CHAPTER VIII

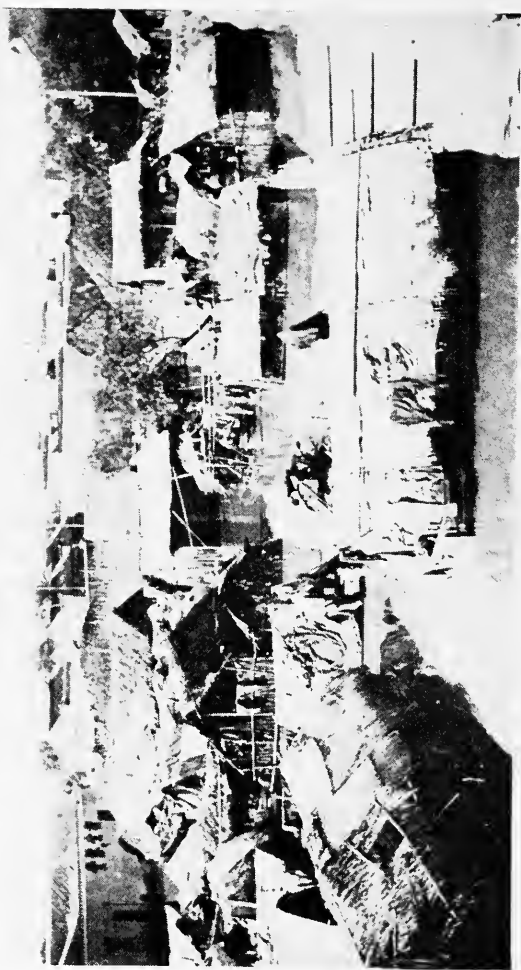
PREVENTION DUTIES

. . . And to devise and carry on measures for preventing the same [pestilence, famines, fire, floods and other great national calamities].

THUS does its Congressional Charter authorize the third phase of the continuing peace activities of the American Red Cross, a phase embracing the various preventive measures which the society carries on in an effort to prevent disasters, both in the restricted sense of trying to prevent natural calamities such as famines, fires, floods, cyclones, and the like, and in the broader sense of trying to prevent pestilence through continuing efforts in popular health education. Because the mechanical devices of such preventive measures involve, however, an expenditure of labor and funds possible only through the local and national governments, the American Red Cross must necessarily confine its activities largely to educational efforts in this field.

PREVENTION OF NATURAL DISASTERS

Numerous and practical examples readily present themselves. To help in the prevention of forest fires,



A FLOODED CHINESE VILLAGE

Prevention Duties

the American Red Cross might lend its voice and influence to the efforts of the U. S. Forest Service for a more careful use of fire in the timber belts and in time of conflagration expend its relief funds to employ fire refugees to plow strips of land across which the fire cannot leap. Such a measure combines economic rehabilitation with preventive work.

To lower the yearly death-rate from tornado, the society might undertake an educational campaign through its Chapters in the cyclone belts so that residents therein might possess all possible provisions for protection against these winds of high velocity. As for devising and carrying on measures to prevent floods, the Red Cross may well initiate, in idea at least, engineering and flood conservancy measures which would keep the Mississippi River and its tributaries within their basins.

In a nation where public sentiment regarding the protection due its citizens by the Government is as highly developed as it is in the United States, there is little need and no demand that the Red Cross should coöperate in urging the enactment of legislative measures for such protection. Nevertheless, the society may render broad service in disseminating information about flood losses and the need for conservancy measures. By public tax, citizens of Dayton, Ohio, a city devastated by the 1913 flood, have already protected themselves with flood prevention devices. Also many citizens living near the

The American National Red Cross

Miami River, a tributary of the Ohio, have joined hands in a taxation plan whereby at a cost of many millions of dollars enormous reservoirs have been built as water containers which may at any time reduce the flow of water through the river channels and thus prevent floods. At Columbus, Ohio, the Scioto River channel has been more than doubled in width, thoroughly dredged, and considerably straightened so that water may pass through at great velocity and with much less risk of flood. These examples are not directly attributable to Red Cross effort, but the citizens who led in Red Cross relief work during the floods and who saw the havoc played by the turbulent streams have frequently been among those who insistently and repeatedly directed state and municipal attention to the need for these conservancy projects.

An interesting example of the part which the American Red Cross took in bringing about an Asiatic flood conservancy measure may be seen in the society's efforts in 1914 in the Huai District of China. How the Yang-tse River periodically overflows its basin in the Huai District and causes a destruction of crops which results in widespread famine has already been briefly told. After the American Red Cross had for several years conducted an emergency feeding program in this region, the society realized that this relief, to be permanently effective, must embrace preventive as well as palliative

Prevention Duties

measures. At the instigation and expense of the American Red Cross and the coöperation of the Governments of China and the United States, a commission of American engineers, among them the chief of the U. S. Reclamation Service and the officer who had been in charge of the Gatun Lock of the Panama Canal, was sent in 1914 to China to make a survey of the engineering works which might be built in the hope of keeping the Yang-tse River within its basin. As finally drawn up, these plans involved an expenditure of forty-five million dollars covering a period of six years and lay, of course, beyond the resources of the American society. The Chinese Government expects, however, to undertake the project as soon as it can be financed. If it is carried through, the American Red Cross may feel that in sponsoring the engineering commission and in meeting the expenses of the survey it has furthered considerably this undertaking, which may liberate millions from the age-long tyranny of the erratic Yang-tse.

PREVENTION OF PESTILENCE

The prevention of pestilence through comprehensive and continuing activities in popular health education is the most recent development of the American Red Cross ideal. With the return of peace various medical and social service organizations, and a considerable mass of the American citizenry as contained in the Red Cross membership, gave con-

The American National Red Cross

structive thought to the lessons which the war had taught. Chief among these were results of the draft, which showed that one out of every three young American men was found to be physically unfit to serve in his country's army because of remediable but neglected physical defects. Not excepting even the European War, no calamity of modern times had caused within the United States the misery and death which the influenza pandemic caused in 1918. Thus it was felt that since the death-rate from preventable disease yearly constituted in itself the greatest of human disasters, the Red Cross ideal of preparedness in and prevention of disaster justified the society to extend broadly its previously initiated activities in public health.

Many an American town, which had been for years unmindful of community ills, awakened suddenly during the tense war period to community endeavor and then, when the war needs no longer existed, was not satisfied to return to its former state of indifference to civic and community needs. The birth of this community conscience has been described as follows by the chairman of a Red Cross Chapter in a small Mid-Western town and is typical of hundreds of other Chapters which have developed a post-war program of community service and popular health education:

It all came out of knitting sweaters during the war [explained this chairman]. A number of us women decided we

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wanted to start a Red Cross Chapter here at Spring Rock, so we wrote to Division Headquarters and pretty soon down comes a slip of a girl to tell us what to do. "Knit sweaters and socks," she said, so we started. "No," said that slip of a girl to us women who'd been knitting socks when she was a baby, "Knit them this way." So we started all over again, because we knew that some big, trained woman or man in Washington, D. C., who knew all there was to be known about knitting, had good reasons for doing things the way she said. And that's how we started our Production Service.

Then one day a truck ran over Buck Anderson's boy. Buck was in France fighting and his girl-wife had no money, so our Red Cross Chapter decided we'd see that the doctor's bill got paid. Once we looked into matters, we got work for Buck's wife and hunted up his allotments, and that was the way we started Home Service.

As the war went on, we got to liking our work so well we hated to give it up after the Armistice [continued the Chapter chairman], and then one day John Adams's boy got run over, too. We wanted to do something for him like we had for Buck's boy, but found out we could n't, because John had n't been in the war. And why? Because he was dead, had died the year before the war started. Well, that started us to thinking, and we decided that in addition to our soldier work and disaster relief we'd like to do something for boys like John's and Buck's, in fact, for all the children of Spring Rock.

About that time along comes that slip of a girl from Division Headquarters again, so we talked to her and asked her what we could do to help the children of Spring Rock. "Get a public health nurse," she suggested. We did n't understand what a public health nurse was or exactly what she'd do, but if the Red Cross at Washington said she was all right and we needed her, we knew it must be so. And that's how we started our Public Health Nursing Service, which the County's taken over. Spring Rock's also got a school nurse who's paid by the Board of Education.

After that things went smoother'n a greased plank. We kept up our soldier work and then we started classes in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick, First Aid, and Life-Saving. A little later we began our Nutrition Service, and we're working hard to develop that now. But you see, it all came out of the way we got to thinking after the war. We got to looking at things differently and to thinking differently. Instead of each



A RED CROSS PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE ON HER ROUNDS

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of us living our single little life all by ourselves, we began to realize how much we depended on each other, how much we owed to each other.

RED CROSS HEALTH ACTIVITIES

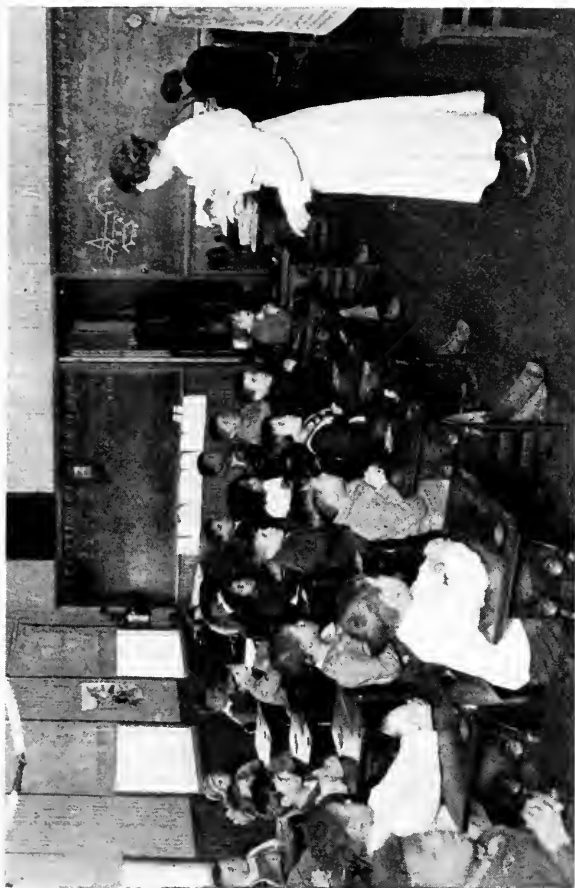
Out of this demand from its Chapters were developed the present Red Cross activities in the field of popular health education, though all these projects had been initiated previous to the European War. In order that the Red Cross might have expert professional advice, a Health Advisory Committee was appointed early in 1923, which was composed of ten leading medical and public health authorities in the United States. This committee is advisory to the chairman of the Central Committee regarding the initiation and conduct of all American Red Cross preventive measures in the medical field. The Health Advisory Committee immediately indorsed the various health activities which the Red Cross has conducted for some years and recommended also the development of machinery for the coördination at one central point of the work of various local health agencies, and Red Cross coöperation on a national scale with such organizations as the National Health Council for the purpose of furthering the coördination of volunteer public health activities.

All Red Cross activities in the field of public health have been at least mentioned in the chapter on continuing war relief and preparedness measures. Among these the three which are essentially preventive measures will now be briefly described in turn.

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RED CROSS PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING

The American Red Cross Public Health Nursing Service had its inception in the Red Cross Town and Country Nursing Service, which came into existence in 1912 through the generosity of Jacob Schiff and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, for the purpose of stimulating the development and supervising the professional conduct of public health nursing services in small towns of less than twenty-five thousand population and in rural communities. During subsequent years the Town and Country Nursing Service did three things which gave great impetus to the development and practice of skilled rural public health nursing: the first of these consisted in setting up standards of training and experience for rural nurses; the second consisted in enrolling in the Town and Country Nursing Service nurses who were then employed by a few far-visioned Red Cross Chapters, women's clubs, and other community organizations; and the third, in supervising and encouraging these agencies in the maintenance of these services. By 1917 eighty-five affiliated associations were employing ninety-seven Red Cross Town and Country nurses, who were caring for the heretofore neglected sick in small towns and rural communities. A year later, and partly because of war needs, the name of the Red Cross Town and Country Nursing Service was changed to that of the Red Cross Public Health



A RED CROSS PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE GIVING HEALTH INSTRUCTION TO CHILDREN
IN THE SCHOOLS

The American National Red Cross

Nursing Service, and the limitation regarding the size of the town in which it might operate was removed.

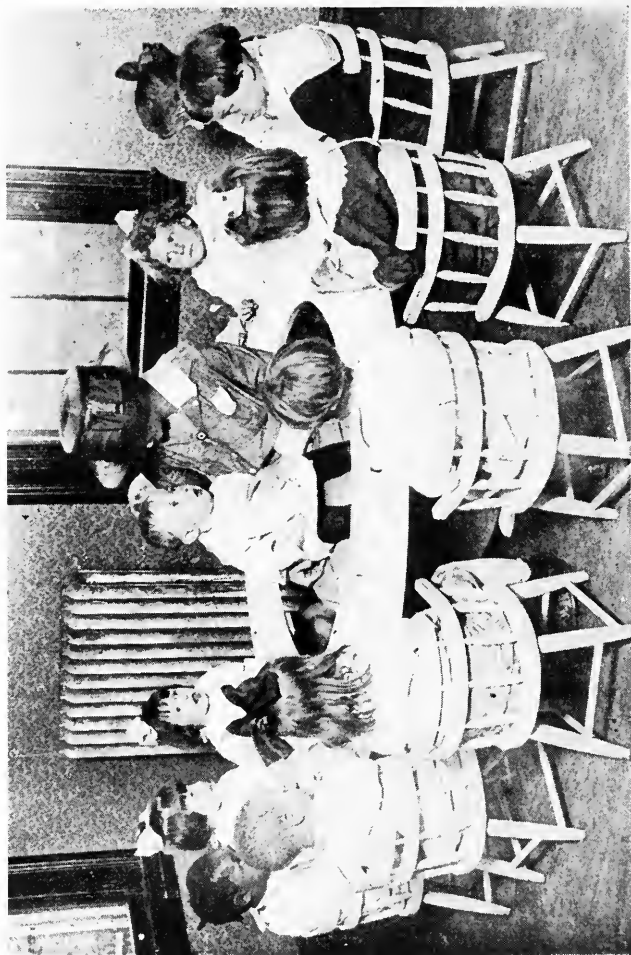
In 1919, as has been said before, came the demand from its own members and from outside organizations that the American Red Cross should develop activities to check the yearly death-toll of preventable disease. No better means of improving local health conditions and disseminating popular health education has yet been found by medical science than to place a well trained and able public health nurse in a community. Hence, National Headquarters authorized local Chapters in rural and semirural districts to develop a public health nursing service with a view of transferring it to the county or local authorities as soon as a successful demonstration of its value had been made. For such development Chapter funds might be utilized. In addition, National Red Cross funds were appropriated and distributed in the form of scholarships and loans to enable nurses to take postgraduate training for future service as public health nurses. Moreover, subsidies were granted to colleges to assist them in providing additional teaching facilities for training the new recruits in public health nursing. Finally, a system of constant and close coöperation between state health officers and Red Cross Division directors of public health nursing was established, so that local health officers and Red Cross Chapter public health

Prevention Duties

nurses might work together in the field toward a common goal, the improvement of community health.

The post-war development of the Red Cross Public Health Nursing Service was unprecedented in the history of altruistic community endeavor. In 1921 there were 1145 Chapter public health nursing services in vigorous operation, with a total staff of over two thousand nurses. Since it was the policy of the Red Cross to maintain these services only as a demonstration of their value to a community, the number of services has gradually decreased, because many Chapters, having conducted a successful demonstration, have turned their service completely over to the county commissioners or the town board of health or board of education, for future maintenance from public funds. But, even so, almost a thousand Red Cross public health nurses in their picturesque uniforms and small cars are still carrying the chance to live, the message of health, and the good will of the Red Cross to people of mining communities, agricultural centers, bleak and wind-swept mountain plateaus, and lonely sea-shore settlements throughout the United States and her possessions.

Perhaps of all the varied activities of the American Red Cross, none is more unique or genuinely worthwhile than that of the Delano Memorial Nurses. By the terms of Miss Delano's will, she established a memorial fund, the income of which should be expended to send Red Cross nurses to conduct in



A RED CROSS NURSE TELLS A HEALTH STORY

Prevention Duties

memory of her father and mother public health nursing services in remote and isolated communities. One of these nurses is now on duty on Swan's Island, off the coast of Maine; another is at Highlands, North Carolina, and a third within the Arctic Circle on the Seward Peninsula, Alaska. Additional services will be established as rapidly as the fund permits.

RED CROSS NUTRITION SERVICE

Like many other lines of Red Cross endeavor, the society's educational activities in nutrition had their commencement in 1908, when class instruction for women and girls in "dietetics and household economy" was authorized. A text-book, "Home Dietetics," and a course of study based on it were later prepared and presented to classes by enrolled Red Cross dietitian-instructors. Impetus for such work was given in 1917 and in 1918, when a need for popular education in food conservation and war diet made itself felt, especially in connection with the Canteen Service.

With a return to normal peace conditions came the newer conception of the part which the American Red Cross might play in the prevention of pestilence through popular health education. In addition, it soon became apparent that any Red Cross program in health education must include instruction in nutrition, for sound nutrition of the individual and

The American National Red Cross

the community is the foundation of public health. The science of sound nutrition may be regarded, however, as still in its infancy, and the results of scientific investigation in this field have only recently been made available through popular methods in education.

Physicians, nutrition experts, newspaper and magazine editors, and lecturers are now impressing on the general public the close relationship which has been shown to exist between an application of these principles of sound nutrition and the improvement of public health. It is not enough, they reiterate, that food should be appetizingly cooked and attractively served; it is far more important, they declare, that the foods served at the family table should meet the different food needs of the various members of the family. Otherwise, malnutrition will result, with its lowered vitality and susceptibility to infections for adults, and for children these handicaps plus stunted physical development, dulled mentality, and temperamental irritabilities.

A conservative estimate, based on physicians' examinations, states that over six million children (or one out of every four in American public schools) are suffering from malnutrition in more or less acute degrees. This malnutrition, it has further been shown, is usually due to the fact that these children have been allowed to form faulty food habits when



THE RED CROSS NUTRITION WORKER IN THE HOME

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young children. Often the trouble goes even further back than this. These stunted, thin, and nervous children have usually received their first irreparable handicap during infancy and before birth, because their mothers did not know that the adequate nourishment and proper development of their babies depended chiefly on the foods which they ate during pregnancy and lactation.

Into the selection, purchase, and preparation of the meals for a family enter many social and economic factors such as family and national food habits, the thickness of the family purse, the necessity for one woman to prepare and serve on one table foods suitable for herself and perhaps an unborn child, for her husband, for a child of four years, for a boy or girl in grammar school, and perhaps for a chronically ailing parent. At this one table are presented six distinct food problems. Is it not apparent that the only way in which one woman can solve all these food problems to the benefit of all members of her family is to study foods and to learn the food requirements of each member at each stage of growth and health?

Accordingly, a complete reorganization of the former Dietitians' Bureau was effected in July, 1921, and the Nutrition Service, with its subsequent National and Division organization and its authorized Chapter workers, came into existence. Immediately the new Service prepared and published a

Prevention Duties

text-book, "Food Selection," and drew up and set into operation the present far-reaching educational program.

To promote individual and community health, this nutrition program is carried on by Red Cross Chapters through the services of qualified nutrition experts, or public health dietitians as they are sometimes called, or "vegetable ladies" as they are popularly known to children in the schools. For the development and maintenance of such work, Chapter funds may be utilized. To secure a suitable personnel, National funds also are available as scholarships to prepare women previously trained in home economics for service in the Chapter field. Moreover, Red Cross subsidies were granted to certain universities to provide facilities for training these future Chapter workers, and thus the Red Cross has been able to give considerable impetus to the development of this specialized phase of home economics. A unique aspect of this subsidy plan has consisted in the use of the Chapter as a practice field by the university.

After such preparation, the public health dietitian begins her educational service in the Chapter and is soon assimilated into the fabric of community life. To all types of individuals she gives suitable instruction in their specific food needs, beginning with the unborn infant by teaching the mother its and her own food requirements and continuing through



A RED CROSS NUTRITION WORKER IN THE SCHOOL

Prevention Duties

all the ages allotted to the span of human life. Through the course in Food Selection, she teaches housewives the principles of correct feeding and wise buying and the many factors which must be considered in choosing an adequate diet for the well and the sick. In the schools she instructs children regarding the foods best suited to their own needs and encourages them through periodical weighing to bring up or reduce their weight to that which is standard for children of their age. She shows the adult how to maintain a sound body by regulating his food habits in accordance with his occupational needs. And in homes where sickness or malnutrition exists or where social or economic difficulties interfere with the sound nutrition of the family, she gives personal service.

In 182 American schools during the fiscal year of 1922-23 Red Cross nutrition classes were conducted with a total enrolment of 2688 teachers and 105,110 children. Students to the number of 2261 were enrolled for class instruction in Food Selection; these groups included housewives, social service workers, nurses, and women and girls in industry. Red Cross nutrition workers made 5609 visits to individual families to give advice and assistance within the home.

An outstanding policy of the Nutrition Service is that a Red Cross Chapter shall not attempt to develop a nutrition service in a community where the

The American National Red Cross

resources of that community are such that the service cannot be carried on permanently. In other words, groups of public-spirited citizens under the leadership of a Red Cross Chapter may start a nutrition service and continue it for two or more years, but they are urged to work with the constant objective that this service will eventually be taken over by the proper public health authority and maintained from public funds. In line with this policy, a coöperative program may be developed by two or three neighboring Chapters. Under this plan, two Chapters in adjoining counties coöperate in the employment of a public health dietitian and share her services equally during the year. For four months the nutrition expert remains in one county, organizes a committee of public-spirited women and men to support her, carries on class instruction to children and mothers, leads in the initiation of a hot lunch for school children, and gives personal service in the homes, and then, after the four months are ended, goes on to the adjoining Chapter field and starts a similar service there. During the period of her absence in one county, the nutrition committee carries on the activities which have been started and helps in the initiation of new projects when she returns. Under this arrangement, an economical, highly constructive, and far-reaching program may be developed, a program which lies well within the resources of almost every community and Chapter in the United States.



DEMONSTRATING THE ESSENTIALS OF A WELL-BALANCED DIET

The American National Red Cross

The preparedness and remedial aspects of Red Cross class instruction in Home Hygiene and Care of the Sick, First Aid, and Life-Saving have already been emphasized. Equally and perhaps more important are the self-evident preventive aspects of these courses in saving and conserving human life.

Such, in brief, are the measures for preventing pestilence, famine, fire, floods and other great national calamities which the American Red Cross has devised and is carrying on in time of peace as a part of its system of national and international relief.

CHAPTER IX

THE AMERICAN JUNIOR RED CROSS

“I SERVE!”

The idea of participation by children in altruistic endeavor is one which is not unique to the twentieth century. Indeed, boys and girls first gave service under the Red Cross emblem and spirit when in 1212 the Children's Crusade gathered in Europe and went down to the Holy Land, only to perish in the snows of the Alps and the slave-markets of Egypt. Astounding as this Crusade may seem to the modern mind, it was the concerted expression of childhood's brave and simple-hearted yearning to have a place with their elders in the march toward an ideal. No longer is this ideal the possession of the Holy City, yet none the less to-day as in the Middle Ages do the children ride out under the Red Cross banner. Now, however, they are an army of boys and girls of twenty-three nations, and their ideal is to gain, by losing themselves in helping others, true self-mastery and neighborliness.

This modern movement is the Junior Red Cross movement throughout the world. Twenty-three na-

The American National Red Cross

tional Red Cross societies now have a Junior organization which operates under its parent national Red Cross society and includes thousands of native children. The American Junior Red Cross alone has an annual membership of over four and one half million boys and girls.

Although the American Red Cross was the first national Red Cross society to develop its Junior membership to dimensions which attracted international attention, the idea of mobilizing school children in humanitarian work under the Red Cross banner originated in Europe. Even before the European War, the Swedish, French, and Spanish Red Cross societies attempted to form children's branches, and in 1914 the Quebec Section of the Canadian Red Cross began to enroll boys and girls to assist their elders in Red Cross relief work. In September, 1917, an American Junior Red Cross enrolment was authorized and plans developed to provide suitable channels of American Red Cross relief work for American children. By December, 1918, eleven million American children had become Junior members and subsequently gave their time and pennies to produce surgical supplies and hospital garments for the American fighting forces and garments, toys, and furniture for refugee children in Europe.

With a return to peace, the American Red Cross found itself with this army of eleven million children

The American Junior Red Cross

impatient of demobilization; nay, even intensely eager, as only children can be, for further service. By reason of their limited powers children could not share intelligently in all the complicated phases of Red Cross service, but one basic factor of the Red Cross ideal remained which they could express in time of peace as well as in time of war, and that factor was the ideal of service to others. Such Red Cross service for Juniors would lead to eventual participation by them in rounded, adult Red Cross service as soon as the Gates of Childhood had swung to behind them and they had reached maturity. Such a Junior program in time of peace would simply be an opportunity for children to share in Red Cross effort not independent of but parallel to that of their elders, and, indeed, Juniors are now identified with their seniors in health class instruction, in disaster relief work, in salvage, and other suitable activities. Under this interpretation the Junior Red Cross finds authorization for its program written between the lines of the American Red Cross Charter because "the child is father to the man." Only one practical rule is observed, and that is that Juniors shall be given only the simple forms of Red Cross service which they can perform well.

Thus was developed the present Junior Red Cross service program, not with a view of making Red Cross Juniors little saints or miniature Gentlemen and Lady Bountifuls, but with the view of translating the

The American National Red Cross



CHILDREN'S HANDS BEARING GIFTS

ideals of altruism into the prosaic terms of every-day life, of suggesting for American children the small yet vitally worth-while acts which they themselves might do for each other, for their school, their community, their nation, and even their neighbors in other lands. Of what this service program now consists, will be briefly described.

JUNIOR ORGANIZATION

The American Junior Red Cross is organized in American schools. Children in public, private, and parochial schools who desire to carry on this service program may form under leadership of their teach-

The American Junior Red Cross



TO ONE ANOTHER ACROSS THE SEAS

ers local school auxiliaries. As has been said before, four and one-half million American school-children are now members of Junior auxiliaries in 24,528 schools in the United States and her insular and foreign possessions.

There is no membership fee for Juniors, but each child who signs the membership roll of his school and wears the Junior button "I Serve" must have earned this right through one or more of three avenues of effort. The first way to earn this privilege is for the child to perform a significant service for the school or the community or the local Red Cross Chapter. The second way is to take definite

The American National Red Cross

part in school enterprises by which a Junior Red Cross Service Fund is raised. The third way is to make a contribution to the Junior Red Cross Service Fund from money earned by personal service or personal sacrifice.

Money which has been raised by Red Cross Juniors of a school auxiliary constitutes that auxiliary's Service Fund. This fund may be expended in any or all of the three following ways: to finance local work of the Junior Red Cross; to be sent as a contribution to the National Children's Fund of the Junior Red Cross; and to subscribe to the "Junior Red Cross News." The National Children's Fund is used in its entirety to finance Junior national and international activities. All administrative expenses of the Junior organization at National Headquarters and Division offices are met by appropriation from the General National Fund.

SCHOOL SERVICE

Whatever service Juniors may desire to do which is practical and which conforms to the educational requirements of their grade, they may do as part of their routine school work. In manual training or sewing classes, Juniors can learn to saw and hammer, cut and sew, as well by working on toys, furniture, and garments for refugees as by making articles for themselves. Such work conforms with the educational aims of the manual training or sew-

The American Junior Red Cross

ing courses, which are not that children should make one chair or one dress but that they should learn the general methods of procedure for making various chairs and dresses. Other phases of the service program which find expression in school life are to make articles for schoolroom use; to beautify the schoolhouse and yard; and to develop a spirit of happiness and team-play among the children by bringing the new or diffident schoolmate into the game and by showing consideration for pupils of foreign birth or for the physically defective.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Every community has its individual needs which children may help to meet. Adults, however, have not always the time and patience to tell children what they might well do, and so the Red Cross suggests ways in which Juniors may look about them and do quietly the things at hand which will better the appearance and life of the community. These activities may be of various types, such as "clean-up" campaigns, the protection of birds, or the destruction of poisonous plants.

NATIONAL SERVICE

As is evident from the foregoing, the Junior Service program is expressed in terms of citizenship: it strives to make Juniors better citizens of the community, the nation, and the world. The nationalistic

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phases consist in interesting Juniors to grasp American ideals through the study of America's highest traditions and the lives and sayings of great Americans; to write essays on leading American problems such as immigration and Indians; and to exchange ideas through an organized correspondence with other American Juniors. Also, certain definite national activities are undertaken through the National Children's Fund previously mentioned, for the benefit of American Indian children or children living on isolated mountain-tops or lonely islands along the coasts of the United States. The Juniors of any school or city may adopt one such project and be responsible for its maintenance.

WORLD SERVICE

"Happy childhood the world over!" is an aim of the Junior movement. Accordingly, American Juniors strive to become acquainted, through a system of international school correspondence, with children of other nations and to give to those who have been deprived by war and other misfortune some small portion of the opportunities in which American Juniors find themselves particularly blessed.

This system of international school correspondence consists in the interchange of letters and portfolios between children in American and children in foreign schools. Since letter-writing is a phase of study in English courses, this foreign letter-writ-

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ing is carried on through English classes. A not insignificant by-product of this school correspondence is that international geography and history are vitalized and world neighborliness strengthened by such an interchange of ideas. In seven hundred American schools, American Juniors are thus joining hands with Juniors in a like number of foreign schools.

American Juniors are taught to appreciate that but for a chance of birth they might find themselves orphaned or made homeless through war, as so many European children now find themselves. To these unfortunate ones American Juniors give a small portion of their own abundance through the National Children's Service Fund. For French children deprived by war both of health and recreation, American Juniors have endowed three French children's hospitals and have established many playgrounds and libraries. For orphaned Italian children deprived by war of educational opportunities, American Juniors made a gift of many thousand dollars, to be used in helping finance farm-schools for boys and girls and school ships for future sailors. For ambitious but disadvantaged Albanian children, American Juniors built and maintain at Tirana a modern industrial high school. Space does not permit further mention of the Junior foreign activities, but these examples illustrate at least the spirit of Junior international service.

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That American Red Cross Juniors may be clear-eyed, strong-limbed, and possessed of a robust energy which will permit them to participate in this service program, they form personal health habits and share in school and community health activities.

THE "JUNIOR RED CROSS NEWS"

Once every month during the school year, September through June, National Headquarters publishes and distributes the "Junior Red Cross News," a publication given over entirely to the visualization and description of the Junior Service activities. The "News" makes valuable supplementary reading and also forms a record and continuing report of what Junior organizations have done, are doing, and plan to do. One requirement for the enrolment of a school as a Junior auxiliary is that this school must subscribe annually to at least one copy of this publication. The subscription fee is fifty cents a year for the class. In the year 1921-22 the "News" had an average monthly subscription of one hundred and forty thousand copies. The "News" is entirely self-supporting.

Another attractive Junior publication is the "Junior Red Cross Calendar," which consists of ten pages, one of which is given to each month of the school year. Each page is made up of a quaint color



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drawing and of suggested Junior services appropriate to that month.

Such, in brief, is the origin and organization of the American Junior Red Cross, and such, also, are its service activities. Other national Red Cross societies have adopted similar organization and activities, so that the Junior movement promises in time to make of children the world over a generation grown to maturity in intelligent friendliness, a generation who see the experience of living more in terms of their fellows than of themselves.

CHAPTER X

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

At the time of the Diplomatic Convention in Geneva, Switzerland, out of whose deliberations sprang the institution of the Red Cross, there existed in that city a body of citizens which bore the name of the International Committee of Aid for Wounded Soldiers. The objects of this committee were identical with those of the new movement which had adopted the name and emblem of the Red Cross, and so it was natural and logical that this International Committee of Aid for Wounded Soldiers, with its seat permanently at Geneva, should become a convenient center of information, a clearing-house, as it were, for the young Red Cross societies which were then springing into existence in several countries. Later this relationship was made official by action of a conference of Red Cross societies; the name of the committee was changed to that of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and certain fixed duties of importance, some of which will be briefly mentioned, were placed on it.

The International Committee of the Red Cross

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is now a self-perpetuating body of eighteen citizens of Geneva. Chief among its duties, it carries on certain offices in connection with the recognition of



A DOG OF WAR

newly organized Red Cross societies and in time of war becomes the all-important neutral intermediary agency for prisoners' relief. Also the International Committee calls the international conferences of the Red Cross which are held usually once in every five

International Committee of the Red Cross

years. Ten such conferences have convened since the Red Cross movement was started. The first was held in Paris in 1867; the second in Berlin in 1869; the third in Geneva in 1884; the fourth in Karlsruhe in 1887; the fifth in Rome in 1892; the sixth in Vienna in 1897; the seventh in Petrograd in 1902; the eighth in London in 1907; the ninth in Washington, D. C., in 1912; and the tenth in Geneva in 1921.

Among the first members of the International Committee were General Dufour, Dr. Appia, and Dr. Maunoir of the original Committee of Five appointed from the Genevese Society of Public Utility. Monsieur Moynier himself was the first and for forty-seven years the president of the International Committee. Following his death in 1910, Monsieur Gustav Ador was elected to this office and now holds it. The headquarters of the International Committee are located at Geneva, and from them every month the International Committee publishes an international survey of Red Cross activities, "Le Bulletin International de la Croix Rouge" (International Bulletin of the Red Cross). From time to time the International Committee also publishes pamphlets and articles of international Red Cross interest.

CHAPTER XI

THE LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES

THE League of Red Cross Societies is a voluntary union of national Red Cross societies for the purpose of forwarding their mutual interests and promoting proper Red Cross principles and activities throughout the world in time of peace. On the initiation of Henry P. Davison, chairman of the American Red Cross War Council during the European War, this League was founded in 1919 by the Red Cross societies of Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan, and the United States, and it now includes in its membership forty-nine Red Cross societies. Its objects are the promotion of the organization of new Red Cross societies and the strengthening of weak Red Cross societies, the encouragement of close coöperation and mutual understanding among Red Cross societies, and the lending of assistance through its trained personnel to develop national Red Cross resources and service in various countries. At the present time the League is giving much attention to the organization of Junior Red Cross societies in connection with the mother organizations and to the



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improvement of international health by encouraging national Red Cross societies to participate actively in health service and education.

Mr. Davison was the first chairman of the Board of Governors of the League. Following his death in 1921, Judge Payne was elected to this office. Sir Claude H. Hill, of England, is now Director-General of the League. At Paris the League maintains a permanent secretariat, which serves as an information center for the Red Cross societies of the world and from it publishes monthly a bulletin, "The World's Health."

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